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Turn to
page 71!

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10 Quick & Easy knits p47

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WIN! Cascade yarn & books

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special!**
Fun knits
for teens
& kids



**24 Stunning
designs to
start today!**

ISSUE 69
JULY 2010
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SIZE
20**

Simply Knitting

Simply inspiring

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Subscribe
today!

Don't miss out on your
Knitter's Book of Wool!
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WIN!

Cascade 220
Wool kits

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FOR HOW
TO ENTER!



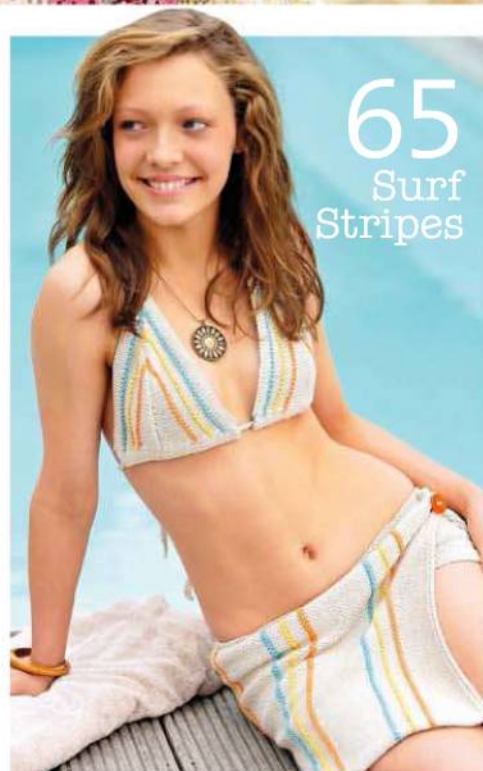
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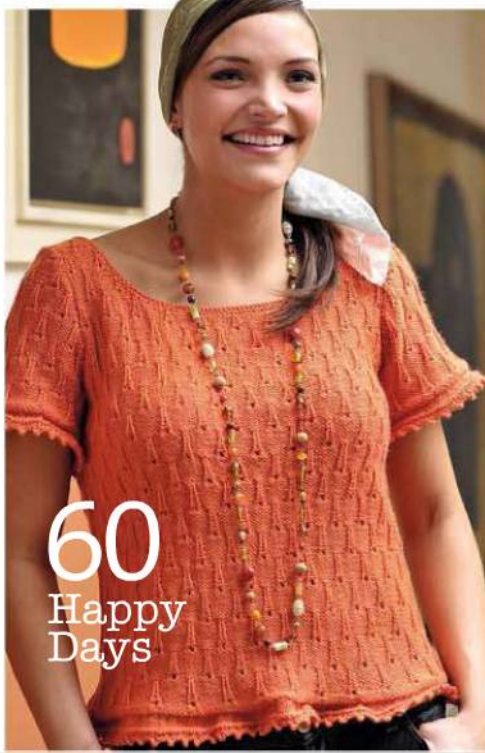
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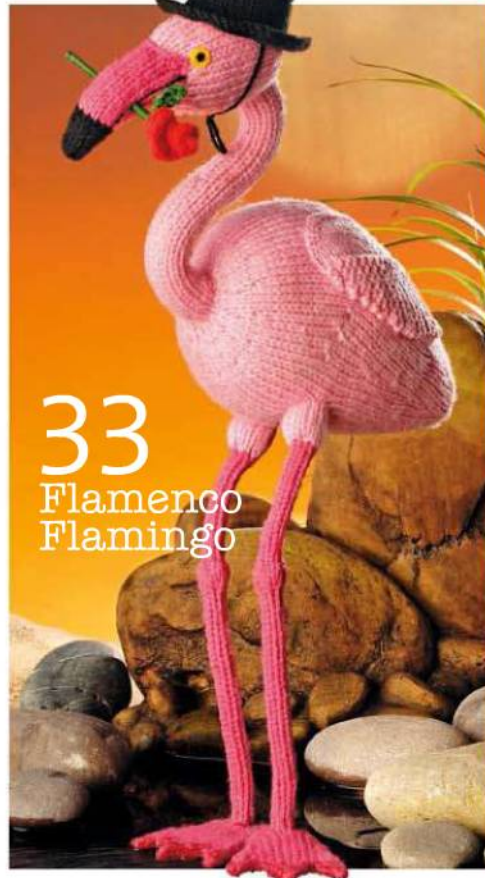
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Blue



55 Bright
Lily



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Days



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Flamenco
Flamingo

Simply the best

We do the hard work so you don't have to! Here are the new books, patterns and yarns.

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Quick & Easy Knits

A peaked baby hat, lace scarf, a luggage tag and part 2 of our beach blanket, plus lots more.

10
FABULOUS
DESIGNS

47



Great ideas for...
July

Miriam McDonald

Miriam McDonald brings you the latest in knitting news, gossip and products...

Pouring with Maureen

Expert knitters will revel in actress Maureen Lipman's intricate tea cosy.

 Maureen Lipman is the latest celeb to design a tea cosy pattern for Marie Curie's Blooming Great Tea Party campaign. Her 'tea and cakes' cosy is sure to brighten up any tea table, although it might leave you wanting a few cupcakes of your own. (You can download the pattern for £2 from Marie Curie Cancer Care's website; see below for details.) This issue comes on sale as the Blooming Great Tea Party campaign is in progress – so you've still got time to organise a party of your own.



Maureen Lipman has designed a tea cosy.


Visit www.mariecurie.org.uk/teaparty for celebrity cosy patterns and information on Marie Curie and *Simply Knitting's* tea cosy design competition. If you'd prefer to do things over the phone, ring 08700 340040 to get your Blooming Great Tea Party tea party pack.

READ
MORE ON
THE WEB



Knitting workshops are being organised as part of this year's Fiddle Frenzy cultural festival.

Traditions live on

 Children in Shetland are no longer to receive specialist knitting lessons in school. Since the 1970s children in Shetland have had knitting classes as part of their education, but with budgets being squeezed the council has felt it necessary to cut the knitting lessons in order to save £130,000 per year.

However, you can't keep a world-class tradition down. Shetlanders are rightly proud of their Fair Isle and lace, and textile workshops for all levels are being included as part of this year's 'Fiddle Frenzy' cultural festival, held from 8-15 August. Jennie Bradley is teaching them and all materials are provided. Call 01595 743843 or visit www.shetlandfiddlefrenzy.com to find out more about Fiddle Frenzy.

GIVEAWAY!

Cascade Yarns 60 Quick Knits packs

5
TO WIN!

WIN Cascade Yarns 220 Wool is fairly new to UK knitters, but it's one of the best-selling yarns in the US. It's 100% Peruvian wool, slightly lighter than a British aran, and comes in over 150 colours. Each winner will receive a cotton project bag, a skein of 220 Wool and a copy of the book *60 Quick Knits*, packed with fab designs using 220 Wool.

To find out more about Cascade Yarns, visit www.cascadeyarns.com



* **TO ENTER:** Text SKCASCADE, then a space, then your name and address to 87474 or visit www.simplyknitting.co.uk and scroll down to 'Competitions'. Fill in the entry form using the keyword SKCASCADE. For terms and conditions see page 19.

224

The number of shades in Jamieson's 'Spindrift' (Fair Isle weight) and DK knitting yarns

Source: Jamieson's

Two ends of yarn are used at once to create the shaded effect.



Bright days call for bright yarns! Noro Taiyo is a gorgeous mix of cotton, silk, wool and nylon, and there are six fab new colourways to choose from this summer.

For more information or to find a stockist, visit www.designeryarns.uk.com or call 01535 664222.



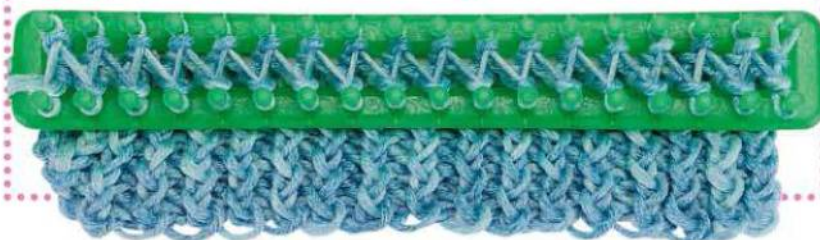
SORBET STRIPES

Enjoy cool and colourful cotton.

We loved this rainbow jumper as soon as we saw it. The modern, graduated colours give a fresh look to the dainty lace pattern, and it's knitted in a cotton yarn, so it's airy enough to make a great cover-up on

breezy days and beachside walks. This pattern is in Mag'Knit Spring Summer No 152 from Bergere de France. For more information on Bergere de France products or to find a stockist, call 01606 883149.

Pony's knitting loom is a needle-free way to knit scarves – great for kids!



Have a heart

♥ If you've got lots of little ends of yarn, The Children's Society has a way to use them up. They're aiming to collect and sell 10,000 knitted hearts by Universal Children's Day on 20 November. Visit www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what_you_can_do/fundraising_appeals/the_big_stitch/7699.html for the free pattern and ideas on how you can use your woolly hearts to raise money to help disadvantaged children.

The pattern was designed by Anna Hrachovec: turn the page for a mini-interview with her.



10,000 of these little hearts are needed.

'Rainbow' knitting is a great way to use up odd balls. **Kirstie**

ON THE NEEDLES...



Anna Hrachovec
Designer

WE FIND OUT WHAT TOY DESIGNER AND ARTIST ANNA IS WORKING ON

What are you knitting at the moment?

I'm knitting lots of small trees and tiny animals (using sock yarn and size 1 needles) for an art show that I'll have in New York later this year. It's going to be a big knitted landscape, and I can't even let myself think about the number of hours that I'm spending on it! Other projects are at the back of my mind, but this is the only one that I'm working on these days.


It is difficult to get a lot of detail into tiny toys? It is difficult to get a lot of detail into a tiny object, but that's also the beauty of making them – figuring out how to convey what the little thing is while using a minimum of stitches and embroidered details is a fun challenge.

ANNA'S BOOK, *KNITTING MOCHIMUCHI*, IS DUE OUT IN AUGUST. YOU CAN ALSO BUY PATTERNS AT WWW.MOCHIMUCHILAND.COM

MAIN IMAGE Painted bedside table, £129; Lydia bedframe, £299; Teal capiz falls, £50; Ruffle cushions, £15 each; Bohemia printed bedding from £20; Bohemia butterfly premium bedding from £35, all BHS

Simplyhome

Modern country

 Bright, non-primary colours, clean shapes and big prints bring country style into the 21st century. This is a lovely, airy style that looks as good in a city centre flat as it does in a cottage amid rolling hills.

Your starting point is white: the background to bounce all the other colours off and bring in lots of light. Begin with white walls, then mix and match patterned accessories, but opt for fuchsia, orange, teal or lime green rather than traditional pinks and beiges, and make sure your prints are big, not retro 'ditsy' prints. Avoid frills, bows and lace.

Fabric designer Amy Butler's 'Midwest Modern' range really encapsulates this style, and now she's got her own yarn range and pattern book it's easy to recreate it in knitting.



PHOTO: HOUSE OF FRASER



INSETS 1. Drawstring pouffe, pattern in Midwest Modern Knits by Amy Butler **2.** 'Watercolour' teapot, £23.50, Linea by Portmerion, House of Fraser **3.** Paradise chair, £249, Littlewoods

5 of the best HOLIDAY PROJECTS



Blanket squares: simple, easy holiday knitting.



A hat: one or two balls needed, and no seams if you knit in the round.



Lace: all you need is 100-200g of yarn and lots of holiday peace and quiet.



Socks: quick to knit, and you may end up wearing them before you go home!

I always take a simple sock project on holiday – so relaxing! **Miriam**

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Simply style

Sporting life



It won't matter whether you like football or not, or even if your national team isn't involved, wherever you are on the planet this June and July you won't be able to avoid the FIFA World Cup – and summer brings tennis and cricket, too. You can't beat them, so why not join them?

Cricket and tennis are both associated with classic cream knits, especially cable jumpers and tank tops, and virtually every knitting brand has a pattern for these, plus you'll find natural-coloured yarns to suit every budget. It's a look that suits men, women, boys and girls equally, and you can knit the coloured edging bands in your favourite team's colours.

Sadly Regia won't be launching their new sock yarn World 'Ball' Color in the UK, but if you're keen to get your hands on some red and white 'England' yarn, you may be able to find an overseas stockist online. Most sports teams have simple colours, though, and it's easy to knit stripes.

If a knit is being worn during or after sport, try to use a wool or wool-rich yarn as wool is capable of wicking away moisture, making it the best choice for sweaty situations.

Yellow Brazil longline boob tube with floral flag, £12, Dorothy Perkins



Photographic Swing T-shirt, £16, BHS

Anyone for tennis knits? Try King Cole pattern 2941.

GIVEAWAY

Vintage corsage kits

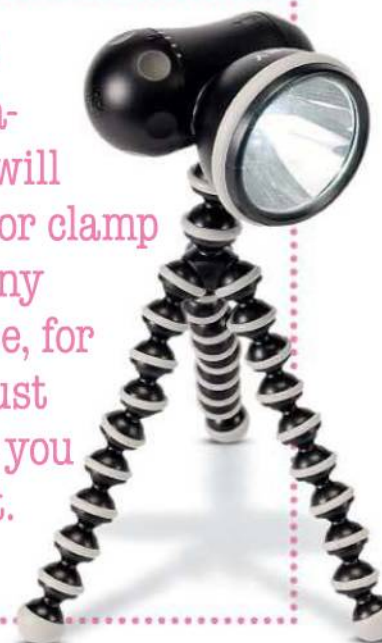
WIN

Make a stylish corsage to pin on a favourite cardigan, coat or even knitted bag with Buttonbag's new Vintage Corsage Kit. Everything you need is inside the old-fashioned screw-top glass jar: fabric, ribbon, buttons, a brooch pin and even the needle and thread, so win this giveaway and everything will be coming up (fabric) roses in a very short time! (Please note: colour and exact contents will vary. These kits are not suitable for children.) For details on Buttonbag's kits for adults and children, visit www.buttonbag.co.uk or call 020 8525 1640.



**10
KITS TO
WIN**

Joby's Gorilla-torch will stand or clamp onto any surface, for light just where you need it.



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Knit ins are already being held all over Norwich.



'Yarn over' the rainbow in Norwich

There may be a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow, but there's a lot of knitting to do at the start. Norfolk-based artist helenofnorwich plans to make a giant rainbow scarf for this year's Norwich Pride parade on 31 July. The scarf will be hung across the balcony of City Hall as the parade goes past. Helenofnorwich is keen to get people of all walks of life involved in knitting squares that will make up the final piece. Four churches and hundreds of individuals across Norfolk are already helping out, and she is particularly keen for faith groups, pubs, schools and the like to hold 'knit ins' to make squares.

As well as making the giant rainbow scarf, at least 300 knitters are needed for an attempt to break the world record for simultaneous knitting, which takes place on July 24 at St Thomas Church Hall, Earlham Road, Norwich.

If you're interested in holding a knit in, being part of a record-breaking team or helping out with the scarf in any way, visit www.norwichpride.org.uk/knit.html or call 07747 751656 for more information.



Short and sweet

Kit her out in style for the holidays.

Whether she's a princess in her party dress or a tomboy in jeans and T-shirt, any girl will love this cute short-sleeved cardigan. Knitted in Click DK, Sirdar pattern 2291 is sized to fit girls aged 2 to 13. You have a choice of long or short sleeves, and the two smallest sizes of the short-sleeved version (2-3 and 4-5 years) each use only 100g of yarn, making this a design economy-minded mums and nans will love too. Visit www.sirdar.co.uk or call 01924 231682 for stockist information.

STOP PRESS...

Marjory's Wool Shop in Glasgow now stocks Filatura de Crosa yarns – perfect if you're longing for a bit of Italian style... London yarn shop Loop is moving and from the 19 June you'll find it at 15 Camden Passage... Artist Alison Murray has unveiled her latest massive knitted work, *Above and Below the Waves*. If you missed its launch at the Appledore Visual Arts Festival, you can catch it at shows around the country... Look out for Jeremy Clarkson's mum Shirley passing on her skills, including knitting, on new Sky programme *Celebrity Parents SOS*... Scarlett Thomas' new novel *Our Tragic Universe* features a knitting pattern for the shape of the universe as part of the plot – by strange coincidence, our office yarn drawers are the embodiment of chaos...

Have you caught the lace knitting bug? Treat it with Manos del Uruguay's new yarn, Manos lace, a fine yet strong blend of alpaca, silk and cashmere.

For more information or to find a stockist, visit www.artesanoyarns.co.uk or call Artesano on 0118 950 3350.



Simply events

June



18 & 22 June

Spin A Yarn workshops
Bovey Tracey, Devon
Advanced design with Claire Crompton (18). Advanced lace with Anniken Allis (22).
Visit www.spinayarn.devon.co.uk or call 01626 836203 for more details.

19-20 June

Keep and Share workshop
Lugwardine, Herefordshire
Machine-knit a Gladys card with Amy Twigger Holroyd. (Two days.)
Email courses@keepandshare.co.uk or call 01432 851162 for details.

19 & 26 June

Fibre + Clay workshops
Knutsford, Cheshire
Professional finishing techniques (19). Learn to knit (26).
Visit www.fibreandclay.co.uk or call 01565 652035.



20th June – don't forget Dad.

19 & 26 June

Get Knitted workshops
Bristol
Crochet a tote bag with Sarah Hazell (19). A professional finish with Debbie Abrahams (26).
Visit <http://getknitted.com> or call 0117 300 5211.

19 June

Voirrey Embroidery workshop
Wirral
Beaded knits with Heike Gittins.
Visit www.voirrey.com or call 0151 342 3514 for more information.

20 June

Father's Day
Don't forget to cast on something special for your favourite man!

20 June

Yarn Barn workshop
Shaw
Details tbc, with Debbie Abrahams.
Visit www.yarnbarnshaw.co.uk or call 01706 843538 for more information.

25 June

Knitting Parlour workshop
Great Malvern
Fair Isle, intarsia and beads with Debbie Abrahams.
Visit <http://theknittingparlour.co.uk> or call 01684 892079 for more information.



Woolfest is always brimming with fun.

25-26 June

Woolfest
Cockermouth, Cumbria
Fab fibre festival, focused on fleece. This year there's a woolly 'country garden'.
Visit www.woolfest.co.uk or call 01697 478707 for more information.

26 June

Liberty workshop
London
Next step on from learn to knit, with Emma King.
Visit www.liberty.co.uk or call 0207 734 1234 for more information.

27 June

Susette Palmer workshop
Golders Green, London
Demystifying lace knitting with Susette Palmer.
Visit www.susetteknits.org.uk for more information.

July



3 July

Get Knitted workshop
Bristol
Dye your own yarn with Jeni from Fyberspates.
Visit <http://getknitted.com> or call 0117 300 5211 for more information.

3 July

Fibre + Clay workshop
Knutsford, Cheshire
Sock knitting on 4 or 5 needles.
Visit www.fibreandclay.co.uk or call 01565 652035 for more information.

3 July

DT Craft & Design workshop
Sale, Cheshire
Dyeing using Kool-Aid and Procion dyes with Debbie Tomkies.
Visit www.dtcrafts.co.uk or call 0161 718 3818.

4 July

Yarn Barn workshop
Shaw
Details tbc with Emma King.
Visit www.yarnbarnshaw.co.uk or call 01706 843538 for more information.

10 July

Keep and Share workshop
Lugwardine, Herefordshire
Hand knitting and crochet workshop with Amy Twigger Holroyd.
Email courses@keepandshare.co.uk or call 01432 851162 for details.



Discover beaded knitting this July.

15 July

The Little Knitting Company workshop
Oxfordshire
Intarsia and beading with Debbie Abrahams.
Visit www.thelittleknittingcompany.co.uk or call 01367 718720 for details.

29-31 July

KnitNation
London
Hand-knitting and spinning expo with an emphasis on socks and lace.
Visit www.knitnation.co.uk for more information.

AUGUST
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GIVEAWAY!

'Homemade' books

WIN

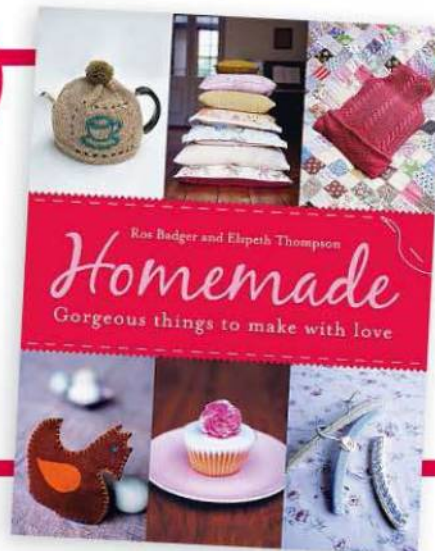
Homemade, by Ros Badger and Elspeth Thompson, is packed with sewing, baking and knitting projects, plus items you can make yourself using other craft skills. It's split into seasons so, for example, a Simnel cake recipe and instructions for felt chicken egg cosies are two of the spring ideas, while there's a guide

to making a Christmas wreath and a pattern for fingerless mittens among the winter projects. All the ideas are very simple, and some would be perfect for mums and tots to make together.

Homemade is published by Collins, priced £12.99, and is available from good book shops nationwide.

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Debora

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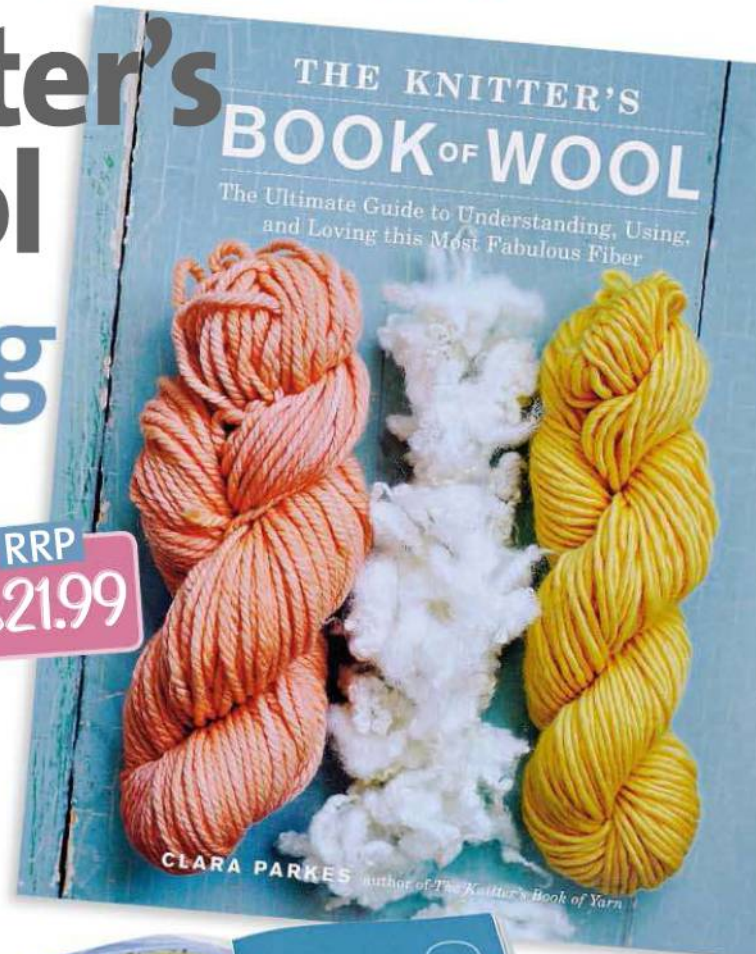
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Dear Debora



Debora Bradley

We'd love to hear from you! Write to us at Dear Debora, *Simply Knitting*, Future, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW or email: simplyknitting@futurenet.com



Matthew loves the dinosaur jumper Linda knitted for him.

Dino-mite

I knitted the Knit-a-Saurus jumper by Bergère de France featured in issue 65 for my grandson Matthew, aged three. As you can see, he just loved it.

I hope you print some other patterns for children with different designs on the front as my granddaughter, aged two, would like one with a fairy.

Linda Auld Dumfries

Debora says: I'm not surprised he loves it, Linda: it's beautifully knitted and fits him perfectly. That pattern has been popular – it seems that all little boys love dinosaurs! We've no plans for a fairy jumper at the moment, but it's a good idea for a future issue.

If other readers would like that pattern, issue 65 is still available as a back issue. Turn to page 78 to find out how to get a copy.

Team effort

I have managed to keep these two footballers long enough to take their photo. They have been very popular with my football fan friends large and small.

I discovered I could get two man-sized (no. 9 3¼mm) needles and two boy-sized (no. 11 3mm) needles) footballers from one 100g ball of black wool. I have knitted up a whole 500g pack plus these two, so I have made 22 players – enough for two teams, but they haven't all gone to the same people.

Cynthia Frank Middlesbrough

Debora says: You have been very busy, Cynthia. I should think

LETTER WE Love

In association with



Boy, oh boy!

I'm 11 and here are my own Easter crochet designs and a knitted egg cosy. Except for the snail they all had Easter eggs in on Easter morning. My mum taught me the basics of knitting, and I have taught myself other things from books and from *Simply Knitting*. I hope that my letter shows that it isn't just girls who knit and crochet. My brother and I both go to a knitting club after school and I am currently knitting King Kong from Carol Meldrum's *Knitted Icons* book.

Jamieson Marsh Cambridge

Debora says: Wow, Jamieson, your designs are really excellent. Your family must have been thrilled with their special Easter gifts. You're right – knitting's not just for girls and I think it's brilliant that you and your brother go to a knitting club. Keep up the good work!



Jamieson's fabulous designs: knitted egg cosy and crochet rabbit, chick, red pot, a Darwin's frog, tortoise, flowery pot and snail (front).

Letter we love prize

Every month the writer of the Letter We Love will receive a £30 voucher to spend with The Little Knitting Company.

To see their range, which includes exclusive hand-dyed cashmere, merino wool, superfine kid mohair and linen blend yarns, take a look at their site at www.thelittleknittingcompany.co.uk



WRITE TO US

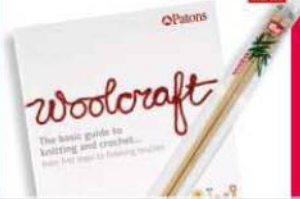
Every letter printed wins!

The writer of each letter we print here will receive a copy of *Patons Woolcraft* and a pair of 4mm bamboo needles, courtesy of our friends at Coats Crafts UK.

Send us your snaps

To make sure your pictures look good in print, follow these three simple rules:

1. Lots of light – a sunny windowsill or outside is great.
2. Take lots of snaps then choose your favourite.
3. Don't edit or resize the photo before you send it to us. While we will endeavour to return any pictures or garments to you, this is not guaranteed. Proof of posting is not proof of receipt.



Just two of Cynthia's 22 footballing glove puppets.



you've been able to memorise the pattern after knitting two whole teams of toys!

The footballers were in a supplement that came free with issue 66. If other readers would like to knit them, see page 78 for how to get a copy.

Hook of horror

I am 61 and have been crocheting and tatting for many years. I like using fine threads, so I use a very fine hook. The one I like to use is my grandmother's, and it's made of silver.

Last week I had to go to A&E with that same hook embedded between my first and second fingers. I was joining two pieces of tatting together and the hook just flipped over and went into my hand. As luck would have it, my husband was in at the time and he drove me to hospital. I was there for well over an hour with different nurses trying to

get it out. Luckily the hook eventually came out, and the only damage was to my pride!

I wanted to tell you this as I think we forget at times that crochet hooks and knitting needles are tools, and they can be dangers we so easily forget.

Joyce Belfield Bradnop

Debora says: That sounds extremely painful, Joyce. I hope your hand is recovered now. According to ROSPA, in 2002 (the last year for which we could get data), 205 people were victims in accidents involving knitting needles or crochet hooks. You are right, we all need to remember our tools need careful handling.

Scary Sackboy

I thought I would send you a photo of the Sackboy I knitted for my grandson from issue 49. The photo also shows the second one I have knitted from the

knits different!

Black and red and right all over

Here's a photo of the bag that I made from issue 55. I chose just two colours to make mine, dark red and black. The handles came from an old bag that I had long since thrown away. I made a slight variation to the pattern. I made two extra squares at each side, folded into two for strength. I also made four extra squares to cover the ones holding the handle from the inside.

Loredana Galea via email



Loredana's stylish bag will last her for years.

Debora says: I'm fascinated by how you've added extra squares to your bag, Loredana – the original pattern used Patons Linen Touch, which is a strong yarn that's very good for making bags, and your adaptations will make the design even more hard wearing. You should be able to enjoy your bag for years.

We love to see how you personalise our patterns – or if you've made a mistake that's turned out great, let us know. And don't forget, every printed letter will win a mini knitter's kit.

game my grandson plays. We used fabric paints for the face.

Mrs I Adams Portsmouth

Debora says: That's a scary Sackboy, Mrs Adams! Still, as you can customise your Sackboy in the computer game, it makes sense for him to be customised in real life too.

If any other readers would like to knit a Sackboy, issue 49 is no longer available as a back issue but you can download the pattern for free from www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/fun/gizmo/article2056598.ece

Cream of scarves

I am absolutely delighted with my Möbius scarf (from *Simply Knitting* issue 66). The technique has proved to be quite a talking point with family and friends. I followed Emma King's



Mrs Adams has made a regular Sackboy and a scary one!



Sandra's had fun with the Möbius scarf technique.

This was Barbara's first entrelac project.



→ instructions very carefully and found she was right when she said it would get easier to manage as the project progressed. Rowan Milk Cotton yarn was a pleasure to work with and lovely and soft to wear.

Sandra Taylor Cumbernauld

Debora says: It's great to hear that you enjoyed knitting and

wearing your scarf, Sandra. The Möbius cast on can be tricky, but nothing gives quite the same effect, and it's always fun to try out new knitting techniques.

Entrelac crazy!

A friend asked me to make an entrelac jumper. I'd never made anything like it before, but I thought I would have a go at it. This is the result. Using the 'Home Essentials' booklet (free with issue 26) I made two cushion covers in the same pattern. I am very pleased with the result.

Barbara Crouch Herne Bay

This photo is of my very first attempt at entrelac. I have always wanted to try it but it looked too difficult. About two or three years ago you gave away a booklet 'Knitting for the Home' and this pattern was in it. I loved doing it, and it wasn't difficult at all. I would love to knit my grandchildren jumpers this way.

Now she's made a cushion, Linda wants to try more entrelac designs.



Are you going to be putting patterns like this in future issues?

Linda England Port Huon, Tasmania

Debora says: Those cushions are really well made, both of you, and Barbara, your jumper has turned out brilliantly so I hope your friend enjoys wearing it. The red and green look very effective.

Linda, King Cole have entrelac patterns for children as part of

their current range: pattern 2998 has a girl's jumper and jacket, and pattern 2997 is for a baby's cardigan. Call King Cole on 01535 650230 for stockist information.



After the jumper, Barbara moved on to making cushions.

KNITTING ALL OVER THE



Teatime treats

Here is a picture of my daughter Jenny and me in front of Ye Olde English Shoppe (a tea shop in Intercourse, Pennsylvania) on my birthday with our favourite magazine!

The tea shop is run by lovely ladies who are from England and it was the first time my husband had high tea. He loved it! What makes a more perfect birthday? Family, tea, and *Simply Knitting*!

Dagny Heidig Pennsylvania

Debora says: Tea always goes down well, at any time of day! (We usually have to race our sister magazine, *Cross Stitcher*, to the kettle each afternoon.) High tea always makes me think of the Famous Five tucking into lots of ham and hard-boiled eggs and a nice fat fruit cake. No wonder your husband loved it! It sounds like an excellent birthday treat.



Tea and Simply Knitting: there's no substitute!

We'd love to see more pictures of you with *Simply Knitting* (or even just your knitting!) in foreign lands. Don't forget, the sender of every letter will receive a brilliant mini knitting kit from Coats Crafts UK.

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Or you can email us at:
simplyknitting@futurenet.com

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Issue 57 (Alan Dart's Hula Hamsters)
Each issue is £3.50 inc p&p
Alan Dart's Noah's Ark pattern booklet
Alan Dart's Wedding Cake pattern booklet
Each £2.50 inc p&p
Alan Dart's *Irresistible Gifts to Knit* book
£7.50 inc p&p
Jonelle Cox, jonelle.cox@hotmail.co.uk

WANTED

Sirdar Snowflake Chunky Glacier (50g balls)

Has anybody got any Glacier in 50g balls in white that I could purchase to complete knitting a gift?
Helenteasdale@hotmail.co.uk

Irresistible Gifts to Knit

I live on the volcano island of Montserrat in the Caribbean and do a lot of knitting for charity. This book has a lot of patterns with a sea theme. All costs for book, patterns and postage will be paid.
Maureen Hodd, mohodd@candw.ms
PO Box 64, Montserrat, West Indies

Beano patterns

Does anyone have a pattern for Gnasher, Dennis the Menace and Minnie the Minx that I can buy or borrow? Some years ago they were printed in a women's magazine.
Diana Powell, 01594 835271
diana@lamgetts.wanadoo.co.uk

Opal yarn: Rainforest 2, Toucan

I am desperately trying to find a ball of 4ply Opal sock wool: colourway 'Toucan', from the Rainforest 2 collection. Will pay for the wool and any post/packing costs.
B. Todd, brenda-of-todhall@ntlworld.com

Pattern: Sirdar Sunshine No. 64

Has anyone a copy of the pattern Sirdar Sunshine No. 64? It is of a child's bolero. A lady sent a photo into 'Dear Debora' in issue 65, and a sample of the completed article.
Valerie Sims, valeriesims@btinternet.com
161 Maltings Lane, Witham, Essex CM8 1JL

CHARITY

Wanted: any slipper patterns

Proceeds to go to The Dogs' Trust.
Mrs Yvonne Williams, 7 Crabbe Crescent,
Chesham, Buckinghamshire, HP5 3DD

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Find a Knitting penpal

MAKE NEW KNITTING FRIENDS

Are there any knitters in the Medway or area? I am a young 28 year old female who's still a beginner but would love to chat and maybe meet up every now and again in order to learn. I also enjoy other crafts as well as I love trying new ones out.
Natalie, nataliemorrow81@yahoo.co.uk

My name is Ana Semerdjieva and I live in Bulgaria. I am 32 year old mother of two kids. I have started to knit and crochet when I was 10. Since then I have been perfecting my hobby. I would gladly write to people from anywhere in the world.
Ana Semerdjieva, 5 Han Asparuh str., bl.45, ap.11, Smolyan 4700, Bulgaria

I'm 59. I love knitting (unusual things!), miniature toys, French knitting, TV travel/ Mrs "Bucket" Discovery Channels and love veggie growing.
Monica Van Jaarsveld, PO Box 7804, Newton Park, Port Elizabeth 6055, South Africa

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July 2010

Knitting 19

BY PAT MENCHINI

Beach Babe

Sized to fit
32-44in
busts

Light, breathable and soft: bamboo is the perfect summer fibre, used in this great summer knit.

Bamboo yarns haven't been around for long compared to classic fibres like wool or cotton. If you haven't already discovered how useful bamboo yarns are, knit this cardigan and you'll quickly be converted!

Bamboo plants grow quickly, without needing masses of chemical fertiliser. To become suitable for knitting with, the fibres are broken down chemically and then respun as viscose, which has a subtle sheen, a beautiful drape and, like other plant-based fibres, also allows your skin to breathe. This is essential on hot days, as synthetics like nylon and acrylic can make you feel overheated, which is never a good look!

Bamboo yarns usually come in two forms: a number of small strands twisted together, or a knitted tape. Designer Pat Menchini has chosen Wendy Pure, a tape yarn, for this

cardigan, and she's used a drop-stitch pattern below the waistband to show off the flat yarn.

There are a few things to bear in mind if you haven't knitted with bamboo before. Like a lot of plant-based fibres it's not particularly stretchy, although the tape construction does mean Wendy Pure has some 'give'. Pat comments, "The most common thing knitters do with tape-type yarns is to work loosely because of the lack of elasticity, so it's doubly important to check your tension."

Knit it, pack it, wear it

Bamboo-based viscose yarns have a property that makes them a summer essential: they're very resistant to crushing and crumpling. You can pack items to take on holiday and when you arrive at your destination, just shake them out and they're ready to wear.

If you are looking for a holiday knit, you probably won't want to take a lot of heavy clothes with you – this could be all you need. Bamboo yarn is lightweight, and this simple design is one that you can wear with all sorts of outfits, whether that's cropped trousers or shorts and a T-shirt by day, or a colourful cotton dress in the evening. Knit it in a colour you wear frequently and you may not want another cardigan all summer!

Lightweight,
breathable
bamboo.







Pattern Info

You will need...

Wendy, Pure

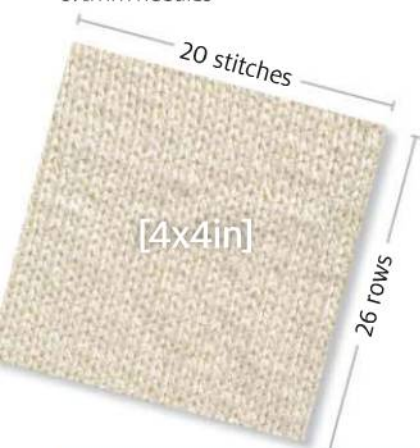
A pair of 3¼mm needles
A pair of 4mm needles
A pair of 4½mm needles
A pair of 5½mm needles
Two large buttons

For where to buy, see page 92

Tension

Yarn used knits as aran to this tension:

20 sts and 26 rows to measure 4x4in (10x10cm) over stocking stitch using 5½mm needles



Sizing colour key

So you can re-use this pattern, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions. Simply follow our colour-coded measurements and you're off.

■ 8 ■ 10 ■ 12 ■ 14 ■ 16 ■ 18 ■ 20

Garage stitch bands finish off the cuffs and waist beautifully and complement the lacy border.

SIZING GUIDE

| SIZE | | 8 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 16 | 18 | 20 |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| TO FIT BUST | in | 32 | 34 | 36 | 38 | 40 | 42 | 44 |
| | cm | 81 | 86 | 91 | 97 | 102 | 107 | 112 |

FINAL MEASUREMENTS

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| BUST | in | 34 | 36 | 38 | 40 | 42 | 44 | 46 |
| | cm | 86 | 91 | 97 | 102 | 107 | 112 | 117 |
| BACK LENGTH | in | 22 | 22½ | 23 | 23¾ | 23¾ | 24 | 24½ |
| | cm | 56 | 57 | 58 | 59 | 60 | 61 | 62 |
| SLEEVE LENGTH | in | 11½ | 11½ | 11½ | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| | cm | 29 | 29 | 29 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 |

YARN

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|
| WENDY Pure | | | | | | | | |
| Milk (881) | 12 | 13 | 13 | 14 | 14 | 15 | 15 | |

Start knitting here

BACK

Cast on 80 (85: 90: 95: 100: 105: 110) sts using 4mm needles and the two-needle method to obtain a loose edge.

Next 3 rows Sl 1, K to end. **

Change to patt:

Row 1 (RS) K1, now K to last st wrapping yarn round needle twice for every st, K last st.

Row 2 K to end, dropping off extra loops.

Rows 3-4 Sl 1, K to end.

Rep these 4 patt rows 9 times more, then rows 1 and 2 again.

Change to 3¼mm needles.

Next row Sl 1, K to end.

Rep this row 25 times more, thus ending after a WS row, and inc 1 st at each end of last row.

[82 (87: 92: 97: 102: 107: 112) sts]

Beg K row, work 2 rows in st st.

Change to 5½mm needles and, beg K row, work 38 rows in st st.

SHAPE ARMHOLES

Cast off 4 (5: 6: 7: 8: 9: 10) sts at beg of next 2 rows.

Dec 1 st at each end of next 3 rows, then on every foll alt row until 62 (65: 68: 71: 72: 75: 78) sts rem.

Cont straight until back measures 6½ (7: 7½: 7¾: 8: 8½: 9)in, 17 (18: 19: 19: 20: 21: 23)cm from beg of armhole shaping, ending after a P row.

SHAPE SHOULDERS

Cast off 5 (6: 6: 6: 6: 7: 7) sts at beg of next 4 rows, then 6 (5: 6: 7: 7: 6: 7) sts at beg of next



If you find your yarn twists when you knit, just twist the ball the other way to straighten it again.

2 rows.

Cast off rem 30 (31: 32: 33: 34: 35: 36) sts.

RIGHT FRONT

Cast on 44 (46: 49: 52: 54: 57: 60) sts using 4mm needles, work as back to **.

Change to patt with front edging in g st. ***

Row 1 (RS) Sl 1, K6, now K to last st wrapping yarn round needle twice for every st, K last st.

Row 2 K to end, dropping off extra loops.

Rows 3-4 Sl 1, K to end.

Rep these 4 patt rows 9 times more, then rows 1 and 2 again

Change to 3¼mm needles.

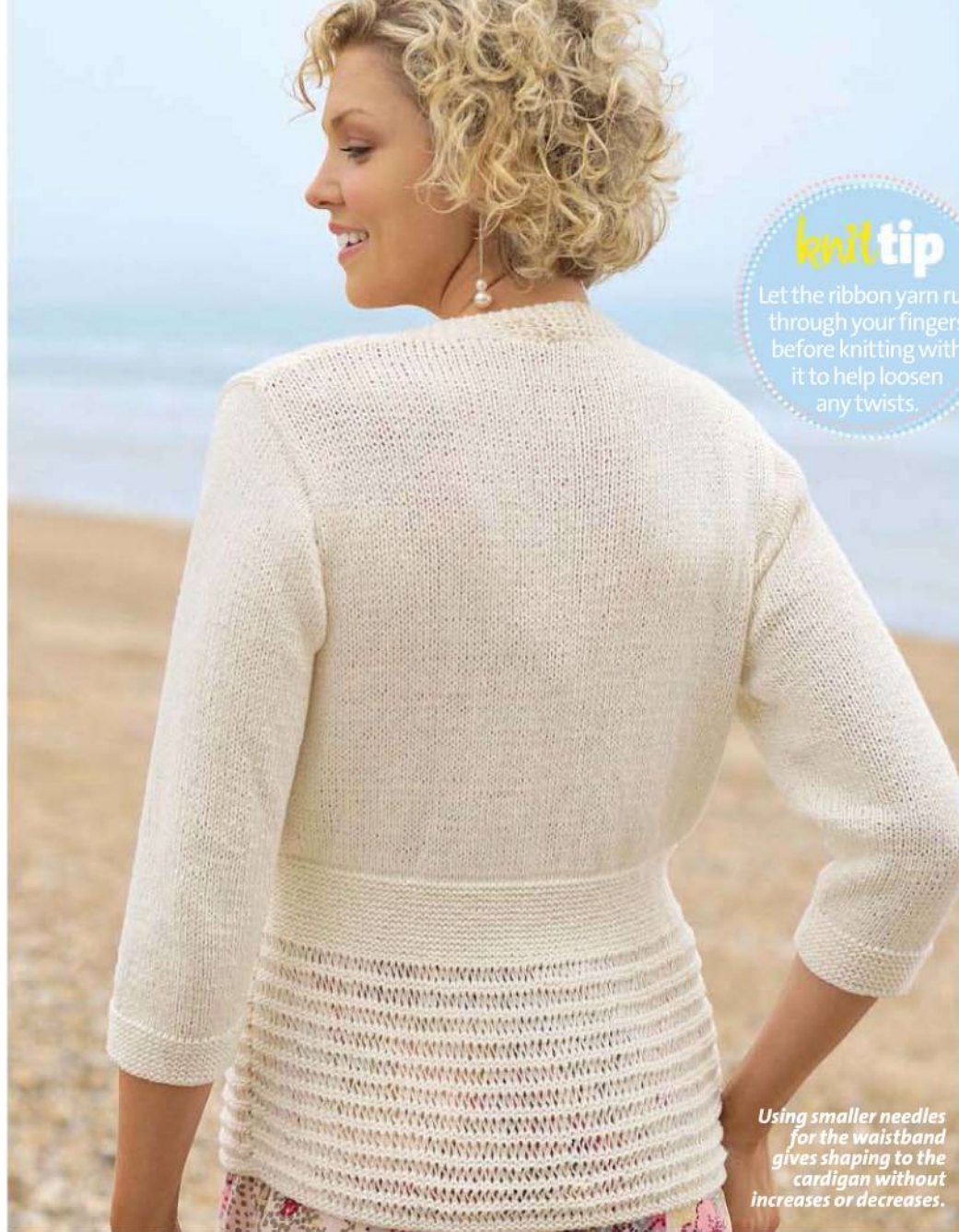
Next 4 rows Sl 1, K to end.

Next row (Buttonhole row) Sl 1, K3, cast off 3 sts. K to end.

Next row Sl 1, K to end, casting on 3 sts over those cast off.

Next 14 rows Sl 1, K to end.

Now rep the 2 buttonhole rows again.



knit tip

Let the ribbon yarn run through your fingers before knitting with it to help loosen any twists.

Using smaller needles for the waistband gives shaping to the cardigan without increases or decreases.

Next 4 rows Sl 1, K to end inc 1 st at side edge on last row. [45 (47: 50: 53: 55: 58: 61) sts]

Next row Sl 1, K to end.

Next row P to last 7 sts, K7.

Change to 5½mm needles.

Cont in st st, working border in g st and shaping front slope as follows:

Dec row Sl 1, K8, k2tog tbl, K to end.

Cont working dec row on every foll 6th row until 38 (40: 43: 46: 48: 51: 54) sts rem.

Work 2 rows straight.

NOTE On left front work 1 row only here.

SHAPE ARMHOLE

Cast off 4 (5: 6: 7: 8: 9: 10) sts at beg of next row.

NOTE On left front only, now work 1 row straight. Dec 1 st at armhole edge on next 3 rows, then on every foll alt row at the same time still working front slope decs spaced as before until 26 (27: 29: 31: 31: 33: 35) sts rem.

Cont dec inside front edge only as before until

23 (24: 25: 26: 26: 27: 28) sts rem.

Cont straight until armhole measures same as back to shoulder shaping ending at armhole edge.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Cast off 5 (6: 6: 6: 6: 7: 7) sts at beg of next and foll alt row, then 6 (5: 6: 7: 7: 6: 7) sts at beg of next alt row.

Cont straight in g st on rem 7 sts until strip fits halfway across back neck when slightly stretched.

Cast off loosely.

LEFT FRONT

Cast on 44 (46: 49: 52: 54: 57: 60) sts using 4mm needles, work as back to **.

Change to patt:

Row 1 (RS) K1, K to last 7 sts wrapping yarn round needle twice for every st, K7.

Row 2 Sl 1, K6, now K to end dropping off extra loops.

Rows 3-4 Sl 1, K to end.

Rep these 4 patt rows 9 times more, then rows 1 and 2 again.



Fashionknit

HOW TO...

ELONGATED STITCH

An easy way to make the simple lace stitch used here.



1

Insert the needle into the stitch as normal, then wrap the yarn around the needle twice.



2

Next, take the stitch over the point of the right-hand needle. Repeat this for every stitch.



3

On the next row knit into the stitch once, dropping the double wrapped stitch.



4

These steps will make the elongated stitch which is used on the edge of the pattern.

Reader offer!

Save 10% off
Wendy Pure

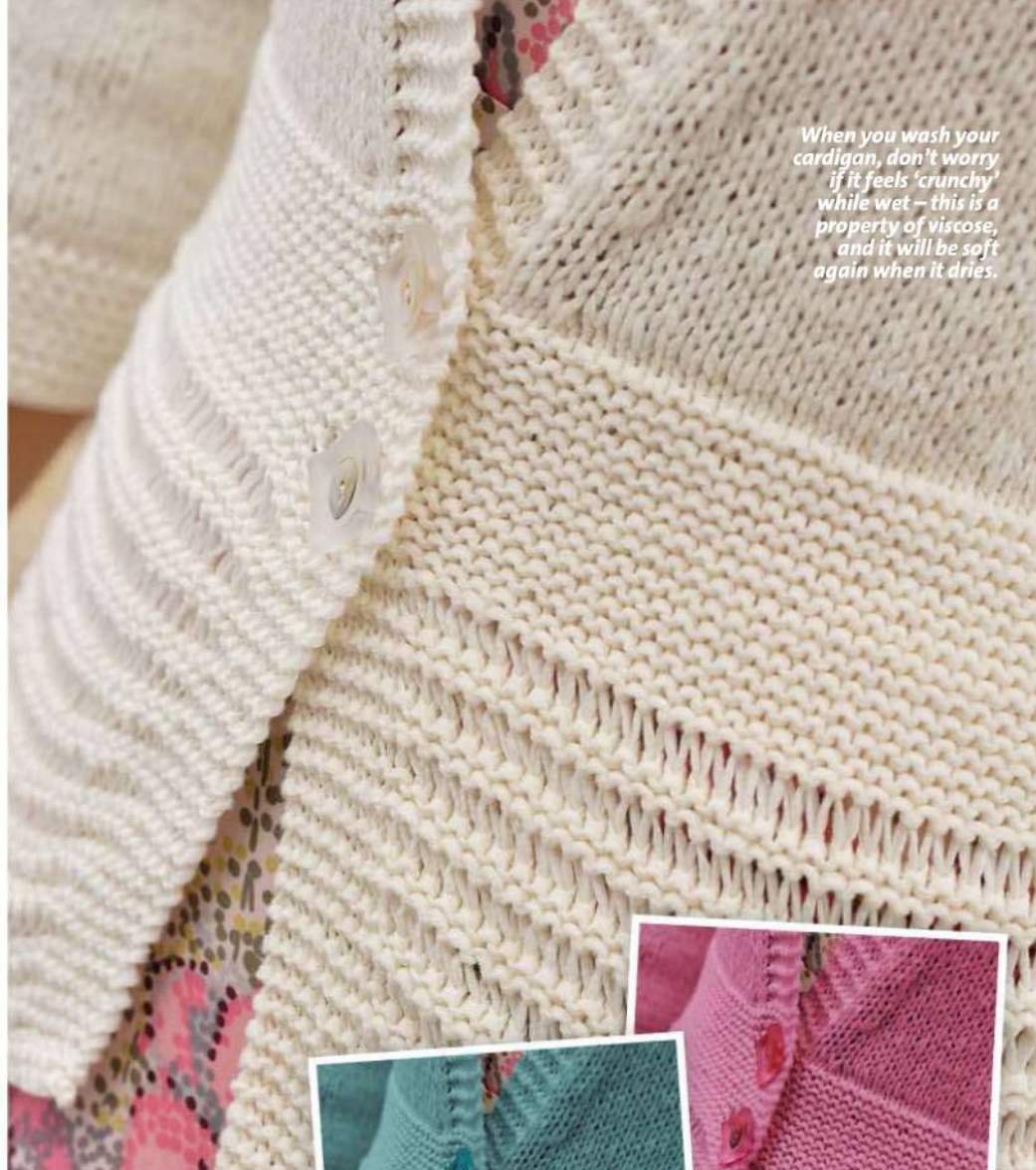
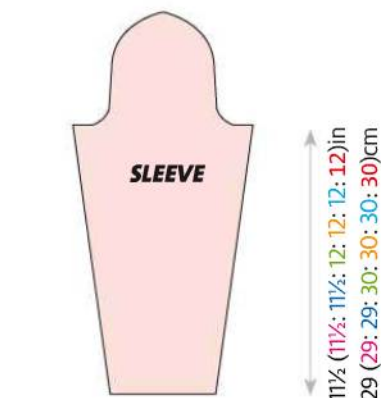
Turn to page 71 for details of this great money-saving offer on the yarn for this project.



Pattern Info

Abbreviations

| | |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| alt | alternate |
| beg | beginning |
| cont | continue |
| dec | decrease, decreasing |
| fol | following |
| g st | garter stitch |
| inc | increase, increasing |
| K | knit |
| P | purl |
| rem | remain(ing) |
| R(W)S | right (wrong) side facing |
| rep | repeat |
| st(s) | stitch(es) |
| sl | slip next st knitwise |
| tog | together |
| tbl | through back of loops |



Change to 3¼mm needles.
Next 26 rows Sl 1, K to last st, inc in last st.
[45 (47: 50: 53: 55: 58: 61) sts]

Change to 5½mm needles.
Next row Sl 1, K to end.
Next row Sl 1, K6, P to end.

Cont in st st, working border in g st and shaping front slope as follows:
Dec row K to last 11 sts, k2tog, K9.

Shape armhole and complete to match right front.

SLEEVES

Cast on 42 (47: 52: 57: 60: 63: 68) sts using 4¼mm needles.
Work 15 rows in g st.

Change to 5½mm needles and, beg K row, work in st st shaping sleeve by inc 1 st at each end of 3rd row, then on every foll 6th row until there are 62 (67: 72: 77: 80: 83: 88) sts.
Cont straight until sleeve measures 11½ (11½: 11½: 12: 12: 12) in, 29 (29: 29: 30: 30: 30: 30) cm from beg, ending after a P row.

SHAPE TOP

Cast off 4 (5: 6: 7: 8: 9: 10) sts at beg of next 2 rows.

Work 2 rows straight.

Dec 1 st at each end of every K row until 36 (39: 40: 43: 42: 41: 44) sts rem, then on every row until 26 (29: 30: 33: 32: 31: 34) sts rem.

Cast off loosely.

TO MAKE UP

Do not press.

Join shoulders firmly, then join side and sleeve seams. Sew in sleeves, join ends of borders, then stitch inside edge to cast-off edge of back. Sew on buttons.

Next issue, look out for Sarah Hatton's delicate little cardigan in Rowan's new recycled yarn Purelife Revive. Issue 70, August, is on sale from Thursday 15 July 2010.



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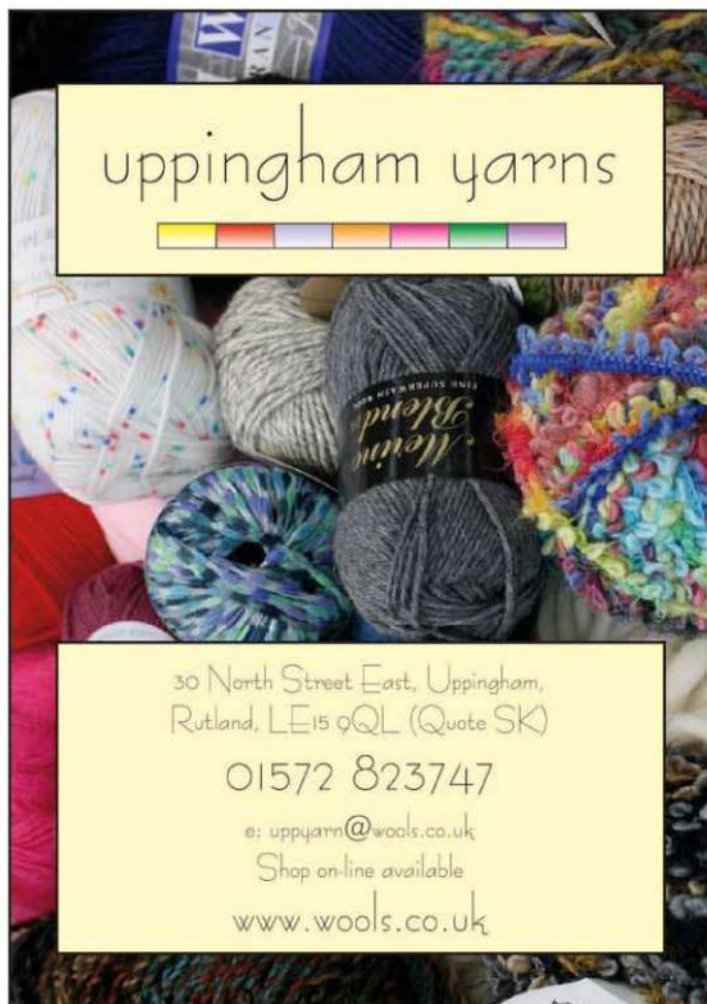
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'Trent' is one of 20 designs for boys and girls from birth to three years in Rowan Miniature Classics. For more information, visit www.knitrowan.com or call 01484 681881.

BY MARTIN STOREY

Seaside story

Great for experienced knitters

Use intarsia and Fair Isle techniques to make this smart nautical knit for little lads.



Pattern Info

You will need...

Rowan, Fine Milk Cotton

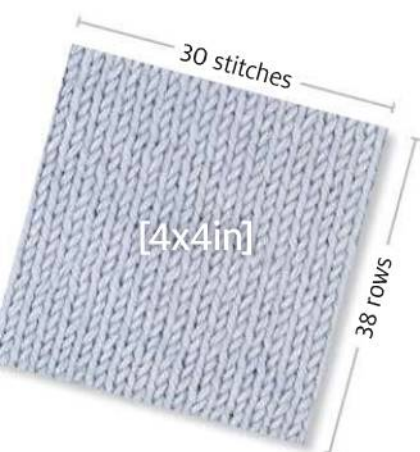
A pair of 2mm needles
A pair of 2½mm needles
Three small buttons

For where to buy, see page 92

Tension

Yarn used knits as 4ply to this tension:

30 sts and 38 rows to measure 4x4in (10x10cm) over Fair Isle pattern using 2½mm needles



Sizing colour key

So you can re-use this pattern, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions. Simply follow our colour-coded measurements and you're off.

■ 12-18 months ■ 2 yrs ■ 3 yrs

Milk protein makes ultra-soft yarn.



SIZING GUIDE

| SIZE | | 12-18m | 2yrs | 3yrs |
|--------------|----|--------|------|------|
| TO FIT CHEST | in | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| | cm | 49 | 51 | 54 |

FINAL MEASUREMENTS

| | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|
| CHEST | in | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| | cm | 57 | 58 | 61 |
| BACK LENGTH | in | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| | cm | 31 | 33 | 35 |

YARN

ROWAN Fine Milk Cotton

Yarn A Humbugs (484)

2 2 2

Yarn B Lagoon (504)

1 1 1

Yarn C Snow (493)

1 1 1

Boys will fall hook, line and sinker for this tank top. "Use short lengths of yarn when working the areas of Fair Isle and intarsia, and spread the work along the needles when working the blocks of colour in order to keep the work elastic and from puckering up," explains designer Martin Storey. This project is best for intermediate to experienced knitters.

Start knitting here

Note Stranded knitting (eg Fair Isle): When two or three colours are worked repeatedly across a row, strand the yarn not in use loosely behind the stitches being worked. If you are working with more than two colours, treat the 'floating' yarns as if they were one yarn and always spread the stitches to their correct width to keep them elastic. It is advisable not to carry the stranded or 'floating' yarns over more than three stitches at a time, but to weave them under and over the colour you are working. The 'floating' yarns are therefore caught at the back of the work.

BACK

Cast on 85 (87: 91) sts using 2mm needles and yarn B.

Row 1 (RS) K2 (3: 0), P3 (3: 2), *K3, P3; rep from * to last 2 (3: 5) sts, K2 (3: 3), P0 (0: 2).

Row 2 P2 (3: 0), K3 (3: 2), *P3, K3, rep from * to last 2 (3: 5) sts, P2 (3: 3), K0 (0: 2).

These 2 rows form rib.

Keeping rib correct, now work in stripes as follows:

Rows 3 to 6 Using yarn A.

Rows 7 and 8 Using yarn B.

Rows 9 to 20 As rows 3 to 8, twice.

Rows 21 and 22 Using yarn A.

These 22 rows complete striped rib. Change to 2½mm needles.**

Beg and ending rows as indicated, using the Fair Isle technique as described on the information page, now work in patt from chart, which is worked entirely in st st beg with a K row, as follows: Work chart rows 1 to 6, ending with RS facing for next row.

Break off contrasts and cont using yarn A only. Work in st st for 36 (40: 44) rows, ending with RS facing for next row. (Back should meas 6½ (7: 7½) in, 17 (18: 19)cm.)

SHAPE ARMHOLES

Cast off 6 sts at beg of next 2 rows.

[73 (75: 79) sts]

Dec 1 st at each end of next 3 rows, then on foll 3 (3: 4) alt rows, then on foll 4th row.

[59 (61: 63) sts]

Work 9 (11: 13) rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

DIVIDE FOR BACK OPENING

Next row (RS) K28 (29: 30) and turn, leaving rem sts on a holder.

Work each side of neck separately.

Work 25 rows, ending with RS facing for next row. (Armhole should meas 5 (5½: 5½)in, 13 (13.5: 14.5) cm.)

SHAPE SHOULDER AND BACK NECK

Next row (RS) Cast off 5 sts, K until there are 8 (8: 9) sts on right needle and turn, leaving rem 15 (16: 16) sts on a second holder.

Cast off 3 sts at beg of next row.

Cast off rem 5 (5: 6) sts.

With RS facing, rejoin yarn to rem sts on first holder, cast off centre 3 sts, K to end.

Complete to match first side, reversing shapings.

FRONT

Work as given for back to **.



HOW TO...

ADD A BUTTON

Here's our professional guide to adding buttons to your knitting.



1

Use matching yarn, and weave it in on the wrong side to secure it. Bring the needle out at the place you want to position the button, slip the button onto the needle and pull the yarn through.



2

Take the yarn back through the button, pulling the yarn firmly. Come out again at the front and repeat this action.



3

Bring the yarn to the front of the knitting, under the button, and wrap the yarn a couple of times round the base of the button, pulling the yarn tight. Take the yarn to the back of the knitting and secure in place.



4

By wrapping the yarn around underneath the button you make a small gap, which stops the knitting rubbing on the button and fraying.



knit tip

When working the Fair Isle areas, weave the yarn in as you work along the row.

Start with the back to get the feel of the Fair Isle pattern before taking on the more complex front.

Beg and ending rows as indicated, using the Fair Isle technique for chart rows 3 to 6 and the intarsia technique for all other rows, now work in patt from chart, which is worked entirely in st st beg with a K row, as folls:

Work 42 (46: 50) rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE ARMHOLES

Keeping patt correct, cast off 6 sts at beg of next 2 rows. [73 (75: 79) sts]

Dec 1 st at each end of next 3 rows, then on foll 3 (3: 4) alt rows, then on foll 4th row.

[59 (61: 63) sts]

Cont straight until chart row 76 (82: 90) has been completed, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE FRONT NECK

Next row (RS) Patt 18 (18: 19) sts and turn, leaving rem sts on a holder.

Work each side of neck separately.

Keeping patt correct, dec 1 st at neck edge of next 4 rows, then on foll 3 alt rows, then on foll 4th row. [10 (10: 11) sts]

Work 1 row, ending after chart row 92 (98: 106) and with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Cast off 5 sts at beg of next row.

Work 1 row.

Cast off rem 5 (5: 6) sts.

With RS facing, slip centre 23 (25: 25) sts onto a

holder, rejoin yarn to rem sts, patt to end.

Complete to match first side, reversing shapings.

TO MAKE UP

Block out each piece of knitting and, following the instructions on the ball band, press the garment pieces, omitting the rib. Join both shoulder seams using backstitch, or mattress stitch if preferred.

BUTTONHOLE BORDER

With RS facing, using 2mm needles and yarn B, pick up and knit 21 sts evenly up left side of back opening, from cast off sts at base of opening to sts left on holder at neck edge.

Work in g st for 3 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Row 4 (RS) K5, (k2tog, yfwd, K6) twice.

Work in g st for a further 2 rows, ending with WS facing for next row.

Cast off knitwise (on WS).

BUTTON BORDER

With RS facing, using 2mm needles and yarn B, pick up and knit 21 sts evenly down right side of back opening, from sts left on holder at neck edge to cast off sts at base of opening.

Work in g st for 6 rows, ending with WS facing for next row.

Cast off knitwise (on WS).

Lay buttonhole band over button band and sew row-end edges of bands to cast-off sts at base of opening.



Pattern Info

Abbreviations

| | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| alt | alternate |
| beg | beginning |
| cont | continue |
| dec | decrease |
| foll | following |
| K | knit |
| meas | measures |
| P | purl |
| rep | repeat |
| rem | remaining |
| st(s) | stitch(es) |
| W(R)S | wrong (right) side |



Keep your cast off relaxed, or it will make the ribbing bunch up.

NECKBAND

With RS facing, using 2mm needles and yarn B, pick up and knit 5 sts across top of buttonhole band, K15 (16: 16) sts on left back holder, pick up and knit 5 sts up left side of back neck and 16 sts down left side of front neck, K23 (25: 25) sts on front holder, pick up and knit 16 sts up right side of front neck and 5 sts down right side of back neck, K15 (16: 16) sts on right back holder, then pick up and knit 5 sts across top of button band. [105 (109: 109) sts]

Work in g st for 3 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Row 4 (RS) K2, k2tog, yfwd, K to end.

Work in g st for a further 2 rows, ending with WS facing for next row.

Cast off knitwise (on WS).

ARMHOLE BORDERS (BOTH ALIKE)

With RS facing, using 2mm needles and yarn B, pick up and knit 103 (103: 109) sts evenly all round armhole edge.

Row 1 (WS) P2, *K3, P3; rep from * to last 5 sts, K3, P2.

Row 2 K2, *P3, K3; rep from * to last 5 sts, P3, K2. These 2 rows form rib.

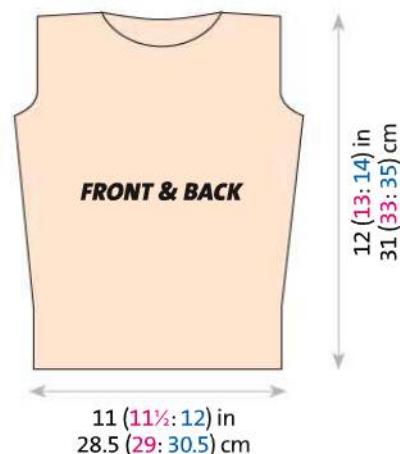
Join in yarn A. Using yarn A, work in rib for a further 2 rows. Break off yarn A. Using yarn B, work in rib for a further 2 rows, ending with WS facing for next row.

Cast off in rib (on WS).

Use a seam stitch such as backstitch or mattress stitch for all main knitting seams and join all ribs and neckband with mattress stitch, unless otherwise stated.



If you liked our seaside slipover, you'll love our stripy cardigan coming up next month for little girls. Issue 70, August will be in the shops from Thursday 15 July).



Reader offer!

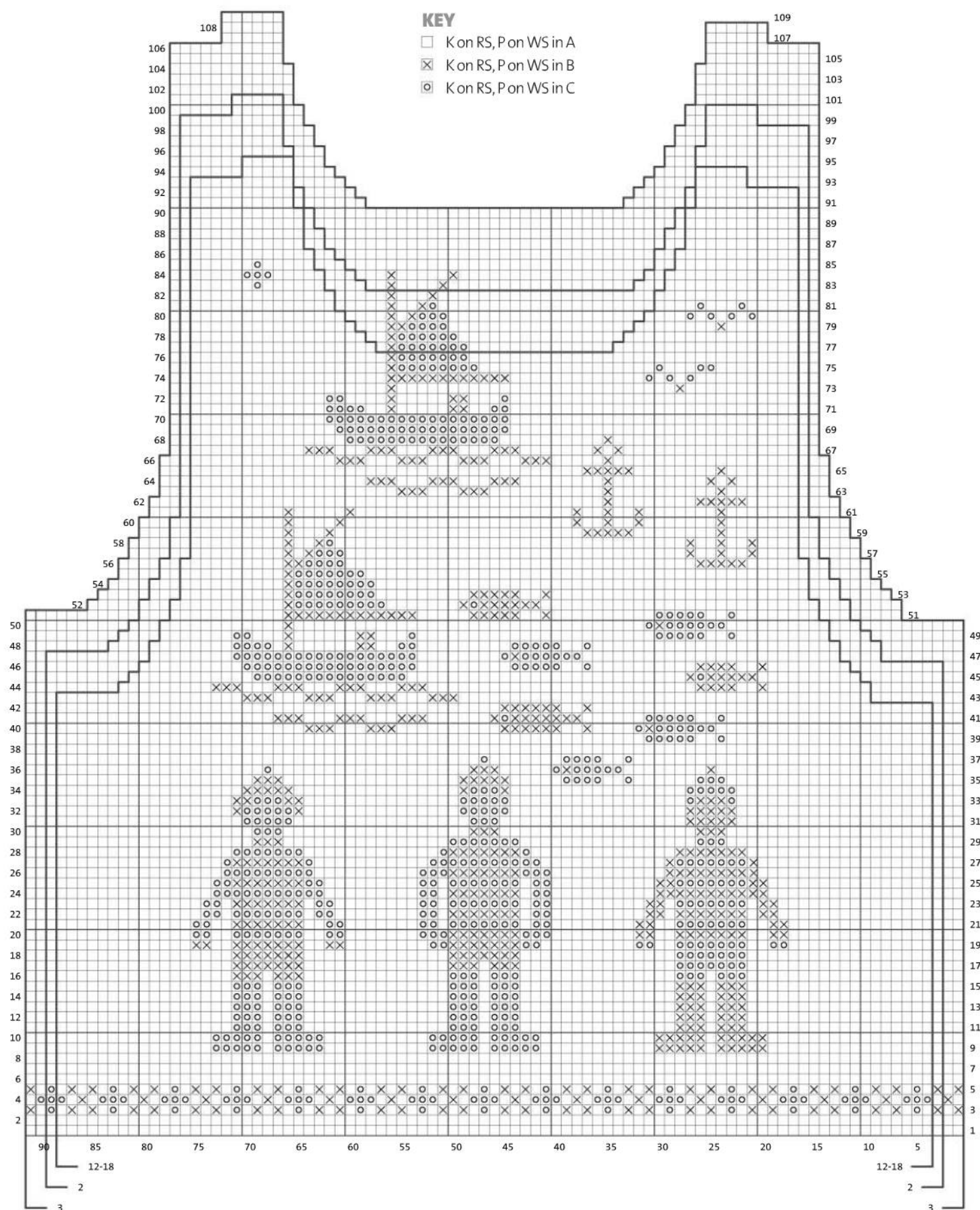
Save 12% off Rowan Fine Milk Cotton

Turn to page 71 for details of this great money-saving offer.



How to use our charts

Our charts are illustrations of patterns, and are used instead of writing the pattern out in full. With charts, you can instantly see what you'll be knitting. Each stitch is represented by a symbol, and you'll start knitting at the bottom right-hand corner. Right side rows are read from right to left and wrong side rows from left to right. Each row of squares represents a row of knitting.





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Flamenco Flamingo

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Alan Dart's leggy Spanish birdie is
here to show you how, so get out
those castanets!



Pattern Info

You will need...

Hayfield, Bonus Toytime DK

Pink (992), 2 x 25g / 70m balls

Black (965), 1 x 25g / 70m ball

Hayfield, Bonus DK

Cupid (944), 1 x 100g / 280m ball

Oddments of red, yellow, and olive green DK yarns

A pair of 3mm knitting needles

75g of washable toy stuffing

6in (15cm) square of washable wadding

1½in (4cm) diameter circle of stiff black card

Three 10in (25cm) white chenille stems (pipe cleaners)

Cotton bud

Long tweezers

Clear adhesive

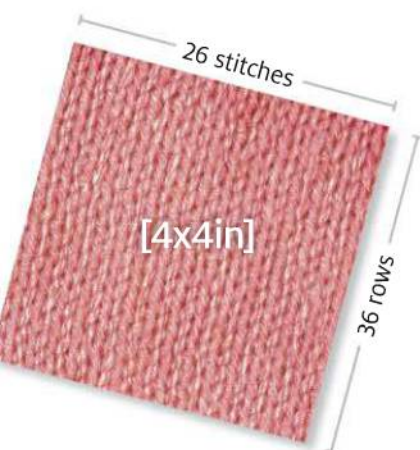
Hair spray

For where to buy, see page 92
Visit www.alandart.co.uk for more information on Alan's designs and to purchase patterns.

Tension

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension:

26 sts and 36 rows to measure 4x4in (10x10cm) over stocking stitch using 3mm needles



Olé! Alan Dart's toy this month is an amazing flamenco-loving flamingo. Complete with a traditional dancer's hat and rose held romantically in his

beak, he'd make a smashing gift for someone special. "A few people have emailed me to say that they would like to knit a flamingo," says designer Alan Dart, "and I plumped for 'flamenco' because both words begin with 'flam!'"

Start knitting here

NOTE Use 3mm needles throughout and cast on by using the cable (two needle) method. This is most important when knitting the smaller pieces. Begin all pieces with a K row unless otherwise stated.

BODY (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 16 sts with Pink for neck edge and st st 2 rows.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [32 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [48 sts]

St st 3 rows.

3rd inc row (K1, inc 1, K1) to end. [64 sts]

St st 9 rows.

SHAPE BACK

1st row K52, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

2nd row Sl 1, P40, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

3rd row Sl 1, K38, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

4th row Sl 1, P36, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

5th row Sl 1, K34, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

6th row Sl 1, P32, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

7th row Sl 1, K30, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

8th row Sl 1, P28, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

9th row Sl 1, K26, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

10th row Sl 1, P24, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

11th row Sl 1, K22, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

12th row Sl 1, P20, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

13th row Sl 1, K18, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

14th row Sl 1, P16, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

15th row Sl 1, K14, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

16th row Sl 1, P12, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

17th row Sl 1, K to end.

18th row P across all sts. [64 sts]

St st 6 rows.

1st dec row (K3, k2tog, K3) to end. [56 sts]

St st 5 rows.

2nd dec row (K3, k2tog, K2) to end. [48 sts]

St st 5 rows.

3rd dec row (K2, k2tog, K2) to end. [40 sts]

St st 5 rows.

4th dec row (K2, k2tog, K1) to end. [32 sts]

St st 3 rows.

5th dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [24 sts]

St st 3 rows.

6th dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

7th dec row (K2tog) to end. [8 sts]

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

NECK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 16 sts with Pink for base edge and st st 4 rows.

Dec row K5, k2tog, K3, k2tog, K4. [14 sts]

St st 43 rows.

Cast off for top edge.

HEAD AND BEAK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 11 sts with Pink for back edge of head and st st 2 rows.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [22 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row K1, (inc 1, K1) ten times, K1. [32 sts]

St st 17 rows.

1st dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [24 sts]

WORK BEAK

1st intarsia row Using a separate ball of yarn for each colour change, and twisting yarns where colours meet to prevent a hole forming, P8 Pink, P1 Cerise, P6 Pink, P1 Cerise, P8 Pink.

2nd intarsia row K7, Pink, K3 Cerise, K4 Pink, K3 Cerise, K7 Pink.

3rd intarsia row P5 Pink, P6 Cerise, P2 Pink, P6 Cerise, P5 Pink.

2nd dec row Continue in Cerise and (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [18 sts]

St st 7 rows.

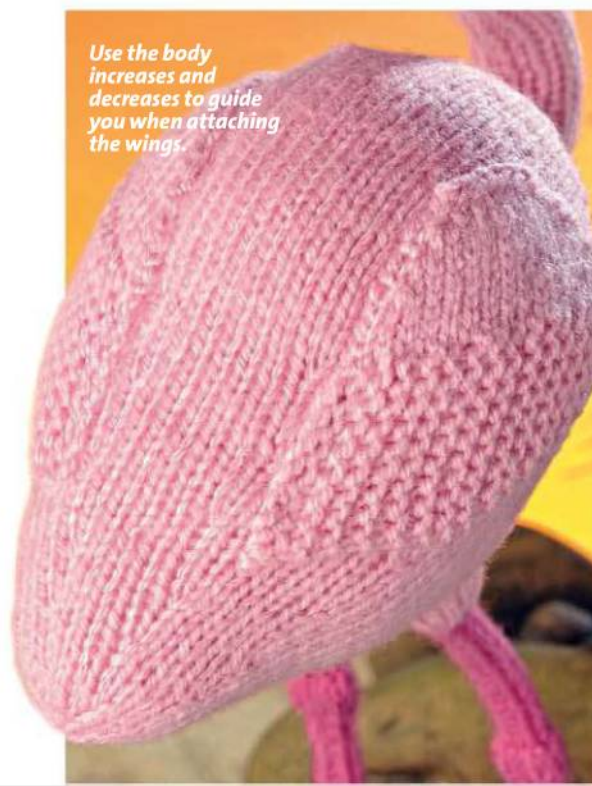
SHAPE BEAK

1st row K14, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

2nd row Sl 1, P10, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

3rd row Sl 1, K7, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

Use the body increases and decreases to guide you when attaching the wings.





knit tip

Use small stitches when sewing up the toy to stop the stuffing showing through.



Make sure the neck is fixed in nice and firm, so the flamingo's head stays upright.

4th row Sl 1, P4, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

5th row Sl 1, K to end.

6th row P across all sts. [18 sts]

Change to Black and st st 2 rows.

3rd dec row K2, (k2tog, K2) to end. [14 sts]

Next row Purl.

4th dec row K2, (k2tog, K1) to end. [10 sts]

Next row Purl.

5th dec row (K2tog) to end. [5 sts]

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

LEGS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 14 sts with Pink for top edge and st st 6 rows.

SHAPE BASE OF TOP SECTION

Dec row Change to Cerise and (k2tog) to end. [7 sts]

St st 21 rows.

SHAPE KNEE

Inc row K1, (inc 1) five times, K1. [12 sts]
St st 3 rows.

Dec row K1, (k2tog) five times, K1. [7 sts]
St st 39 rows.

Cast off for base edge.

FEET (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 8 sts with Cerise for back edge and st st 2 rows.

1st inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [12 sts]
St st 3 rows.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K3, inc 1, K1) twice. [16 sts]
St st 3 rows.

3rd inc row (Inc 1, K5, inc 1, K1) twice. [20 sts]

St st 3 rows.

4th inc row (Inc 1, K7, inc 1, K1) twice. [24 sts]

St st 3 rows.

WORK WEBBED TOES

Next row K3, turn and work on these sts only.

Next row P2tog, P1. [2 sts]

Next row Knit.

Next row P2tog, break yarn and draw through st. Rejoin yarn to remaining 21 sts, K6, turn and work on these sts only.

***Next row** P2tog, P2, P2tog tbl. [4 sts]

Next row Knit.

Next row P2tog, P2tog tbl. [2 sts]

Cast off.**

Rejoin yarn to remaining 15 sts, K6, turn and work on these st only.

Work as given from * to **.

Rejoin yarn to remaining 9 sts, K6, turn and work on these sts only.

Work as given from * to **.

Rejoin yarn to remaining 3 sts, K to end. [3 sts]

Next row P1, p2tog tbl. [2 sts]

Next row Knit.

Next row P2tog tbl, break yarn and draw through st.

LEFT WING FEATHERS

(MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 10 sts with Pink for back edge and g st 16 rows.

Dec 1 st at end of next row.

G st 3 rows.

Repeat the last 4 rows once more. [8 sts]

HOW TO...

KFB

Do the increases this way to get the correct stitch count.



1

Insert the tip of the right-hand needle into the front of the stitch to knit, as you would normally when knitting a stitch.



2

Knit the stitch but don't drop it from the left-hand needle.



3

Take the right-hand needle to the back of the knitting and insert the tip of the needle through the loop of the stitch on the left-hand needle.



4

Knit this second stitch and keep it on the right-hand needle, dropping the stitch from the left-hand needle.



Pattern Info

Abbreviations

| | |
|--------------|---|
| beg | beginning |
| dec | decrease (by working 2 stitches together) |
| inc | increase (by working into front and back of stitch) |
| gst | garter stitch |
| K | knit |
| P | purl |
| sl | slip |
| st st | stocking stitch |
| st(s) | stitch(es) |
| tbl | through back of loops |
| tog | together |
| YB | yarn back |
| YF | yarn forward |

Dec 1 st at end of next row.

Next row Knit.

Repeat the last 2 rows once more. [6 sts]

Dec 1 st at end of next row. [5 sts]

Dec 1 st at beg of next row. [4 sts]

Cast off for front edge.

RIGHT WING FEATHERS (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 10 sts with Pink for back edge and g st 16 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg of next row.

G st 3 rows.

Repeat the last 4 rows once more. [8 sts]

Dec 1 st at beg of next row.

Next row Knit.

Repeat the last 2 rows once more. [6 sts]

Dec 1 st at beg of next row. [5 sts]

Dec 1 st at end of next row. [4 sts]

Cast off for front edge.

WING TOPS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

With right side of work facing and Pink, pick up and knit 16 sts from straight side edge of wing feathers piece, working into space between each garter stitch ridge.

St st 3 rows, beg with a P row.

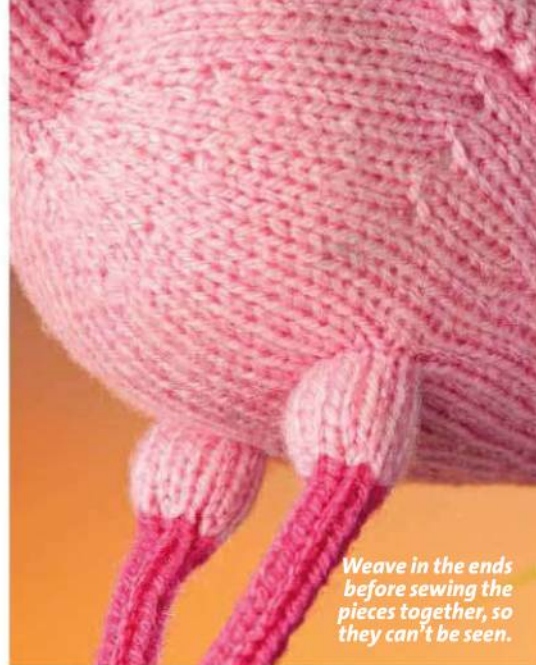
Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row.

Next row Purl.

Repeat the last 2 rows once more. [12 sts]

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 2 rows. [8 sts]

Cast off for top edge.



Weave in the ends before sewing the pieces together, so they can't be seen.

HAT (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 52 sts with Black for brim edge and K 1 row.

SHAPE BRIM

1st dec row P2, (p2tog, P3) to end. [42 sts]

Next row Knit.

2nd dec row P2, (p2tog, P2) to end. [32 sts]

WORK SIDE

St st 5 rows, beg with a K row.

P 3 rows for fold line.

SHAPE CROWN

1st dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [24 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row (K2tog) to end. [8 sts]

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

ROSE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 5 sts with red for centre edge and st st 18 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg of next row.

Next row Purl.

Repeat the last 2 rows two more times. [2 sts]

Cast off.

ROSE LEAF (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 5 sts with olive green.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Unless otherwise specified, sew seams and join pieces using mattress stitch, working with right side of knitting uppermost. A one-stitch knitted seam turning has been allowed on most pieces to accommodate this method.

Starting at gathered tail edge, join body seam, stopping 1in (2.5cm) away from neck edge. Stuff body firmly, then join remainder of seam, leaving neck edge open.



To make working the intarsia easier, wind a few metres of each colour onto bobbins and knit from those rather than the balls.



Darn in ends of yarn neatly at back of work on intarsia section of beak and head, then, starting at gathered beak edge, join beak and head seam, stopping 1in (2.5cm) away from back edge. Stuff firmly, using tweezers to stuff beak, then join remainder of seam. Work a gathering thread through every stitch along back edge, draw up tightly and fasten off.

Use Pink yarn to bind the three chenille stems together to make neck former, securing ends of binding yarn with spots of glue. Now place former on top of wadding square, close to one side edge, with 1in (2.5cm) of former extending at one end and 3in (7.5cm) extending at other, and roll up wadding tightly round former. Now wrap this padded section with the knitted neck piece and join side edges.

Insert a large knitting needle into neck edge of body and make a hole in stuffing by turning needle backward and forward. Carefully remove needle, insert longer end of neck former into this hole, then, matching neck and body seams, join base edge of neck to neck edge of body. The neck seam will run up centre front of neck, and the body seam will run along underside of body. Inserting on head seam, in line with second knitted increase row, use large knitting needle to make a hole in head in same manner. Remove needle and insert shorter end of head former into this hole, then, matching neck and head seams, sew top edge of neck to head. Gently curve neck into an S shape.

Fold each foot piece in half and oversew across back edge, up side edge, and round webbed toes. Coat with hair spray and leave to dry on a flat surface.

Join each leg seam, then, with seam running down centre back, sew base edge of leg to foot, placing 2 knitted rows in from back edge of foot. Use tweezers to stuff top section of each leg firmly, leaving remainder of leg unstuffed, then position and sew legs to base of body, placing leg seam in line with first decrease row on body, and spacing legs 6 knitted stitches apart, which will be 3 knitted stitches either side of body seam. Locate centre back line of body and mark with pins, then pin wings in place, spacing 10 knitted stitches apart, which will be 5 knitted stitches either side of centre back, and placing tip of each wing in line with 3rd decrease row on body. Sew in place by working backstitch over every knitted row or stitch round edge of wing, leaving cast-off edge and curved side edge of wing feathers unsewn. Remove pins.

Take a length of Cupid yarn and draw out a single strand. Use the remaining 2 strands to embroider a line of chain stitch round top of beak, following shape worked in intarsia. Using 2 strands of Black yarn, embroider a line of split stitch up each side

of beak, spacing these lines 7 knitted stitches apart. Now mark eyes with pins, placing 2 knitted rows away from embroidered points at top edge of beak, then use 2 strands of Black yarn to embroider a circle of 5 tiny chain stitches for each pupil. Using 2 strands of yellow yarn, surround pupils with a circle of 10 tiny chain stitches. Take a 12in (30cm) length of Black yarn for hat cord and tie a loop in the centre. Placing this loop under chin, wrap cord round head and tie securely in a knot at top, trimming away excess. Join hat seam, then glue card circle to wrong side of crown, matching edge of card to knitted fold line. Coat hat with hair spray, stretch brim between fingers, then place on a flat surface to dry. Stuff hat lightly, then position and sew to top of head, working backstitch over every stitch along first knitted row of side section.

To make rose, first pick off cotton wool from each end of cotton bud to form stem. With purl side of rose piece uppermost and cast-on edge on your left, spread a little glue over one end of stem and attach to cast-on edge. Now wind rose piece round end of stem and hold in place at base with a few stitches. Using olive green yarn, and securing end with a spot of glue, bind $\frac{1}{2}$ in (6mm) of stem directly below rose. Now take leaf and hold yarn tails next to stem and continue to bind another $\frac{3}{8}$ in (1cm), attaching leaf to stem. Secure end of binding yarn with a spot of glue and trim, along with remainder of yarn tails.

Use a large knitting needle to make a hole through beak, from one embroidered Black line to the other, carefully remove needle and push unbound section of rose stem through this hole. Using glue to secure ends, bind remainder of stem with olive green yarn. To make a neat finish, you may like to thread the yarn through the tiny hole up the centre of the stem, drawing this out in centre of rose and trimming away excess.

Alan's mouse patterns are always popular, and next issue we've got a special Nursery Rhyme mice supplement for you (issue 70, August, on sale Thursday 15 July). Don't miss out!

HOW TO...

TBL

Knit or purl through the back of the loop.



1 Insert the right-hand needle through the back of the stitch(es) on the left-hand needle.



2 Knit or purl this stitch as normal and continue following the pattern.



3 The pictured shows a K2tog tbl and it lies to the left; if you do a p2tog tbl it will lie to the right.



Don't be tempted to swap the p2tog tbl for a regular p2tog – you won't get clean edges on the toes.

BY MARTIN STOREY

Tranquil Blue



Make time to relax and enjoy a blissful summer day – time to knit this casual longline waistcoat.

Put your feet up and get out your knitting needles, a summer day is too precious to waste doing chores. This waistcoat by Martin Storey has enough details to make it interesting, yet is simple enough for knitting it to be restful.

The design is knitted in Rowan Lenpur™ Linen, a cool and breathable blend of Lenpur™ viscose and linen. The mix of fibres results in a knit that feels fresh but not stiff, perfect for easy summer wear. The long, straight shape looks lovely with trousers and a loose blouse or long, summery dresses. “I see Vermont being worn with a long and loose linen shirt and slim leg pair of linen trousers. Complete the look with a pair of espadrilles and fashionable chunky necklace and bangles,” says designer Martin Storey.

Lenpur™ Linen is available in 14 colours, most quite strong: there’s vivid orange ‘Saffron’, purple ‘Incense’ and forest green

‘Jungle’ among the shades. If you prefer something softer, there are also some neutral colours (cream, browns, charcoal). Martin has used one of the more muted shades, Cloud Grey (which does look blue), for this garment. “This yarn does not have the problem of laddering around cables, therefore it is a fabulous summer

yarn for working in texture and cabling, and has a lovely drape quality,” says Martin.



This is one of 12 designs for ladies' garments and homewares in Rowan Casual Classics by Martin Storey. For details or to find a stockist, visit www.knitrowan.com or call 01484 681881.

Magic in the details

While the waistcoat looks very simple, there are a number of features that make it better suited to intermediate or experienced knitters than to novices. To start with, neither linen nor viscose are particularly stretchy. You will also need to read the cable pattern from a chart, and to be able to place pockets. For knitters with a bit of

experience, those things should be simple – and with plenty of knitting to do in each long panel, you’ll have just the excuse you need for a nice long session with your feet up!

Lenpur™ is made from pine branches.







Pattern Info

You will need...

Rowan, Lenpur™ Linen

A pair of 3¼mm needles

A pair 4mm needles

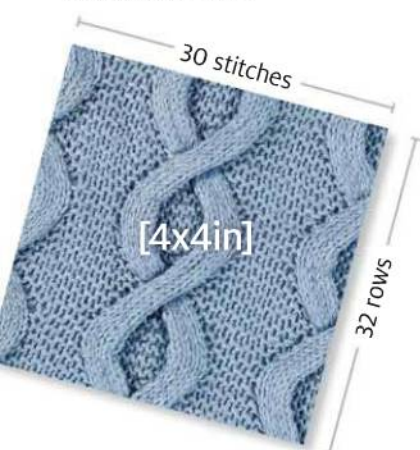
Cable needle

For where to buy, see page 92

Tension

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension:

30 sts and 32 rows to measure 4x4in (10x10cm) over over cable pattern using 4mm needles



Sizing colour key

So you can re-use this pattern, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions. Simply follow our colour-coded measurements and you're off.

■ S ■ M ■ L ■ XL ■ XXL



SIZING GUIDE

| SIZE | | S | M | L | XL | XXL |
|-------------|----|-------|-------|---------|---------|---------|
| TO FIT BUST | in | 32-34 | 36-38 | 40-42 | 44-46 | 48-50 |
| | cm | 81-86 | 91-97 | 102-107 | 112-117 | 122-127 |

FINAL MEASUREMENTS

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| BUST | in | 36 | 41 | 45 | 50 | 55 |
| | cm | 92 | 103 | 115 | 127 | 140 |
| BACK LENGTH | in | 32½ | 33½ | 34½ | 35 | 36 |
| | cm | 83 | 85 | 87 | 89 | 91 |

YARN

ROWAN Lenpur™ Linen 50g/115m

Cloud Grey (574) 14 16 18 20 22



Start knitting here

BACK

Cast on 106 (118: 130: 146: 158) sts using 3¼mm needles.

Row 1 (RS) K2, *P2, K2; rep from * to end.

Row 2 P2, *K2, P2; rep from * to end.

These 2 rows form rib.

Work in rib for a further 31 rows, ending with WS facing for next row.

Row 34 (WS) Rib 2, (M1, rib 2) 5 (5: 8: 3: 9) times, (M1, rib 3) 28 (32: 32: 44: 40) times, (M1, rib 2) 5 (5: 8: 3: 9) times. [144 (160: 178: 196: 216) sts]

Change to 4mm needles.

Beg and ending rows as indicated, working chart rows 1 and 2 once only (work across the first and second rows of both Charts A and B) and then repeating chart rows 3 to 22 throughout, now work in patt from charts as folls:

Cont straight until back meas 10½ (11: 11½: 12: 12½)in, 27 (28: 29: 30: 31)cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

Keeping patt correct, dec 1 st at each end of next and 2 foll 12th rows, then on 2 foll 10th rows. [134 (150: 168: 186: 206) sts]

Work 19 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Inc 1 st at each end of next and foll 22nd row, taking inc sts into patt.

[138 (154: 172: 190: 210) sts]

Work 21 rows, ending with RS facing for next row. (Back should meas 10½ (11: 11½: 12: 12½)in, 61 (62: 63: 64: 65)cm.)

SHAPE ARMHOLES

Keeping patt correct, cast off 10 (12: 14: 16: 18) sts at beg of next 2 rows.

[118 (130: 144: 158: 174) sts]

Dec 1 st at each end of next 5 (7: 9: 11: 13) rows, then on foll 5 (6: 6: 7: 8) alt rows, then on 3 foll 4th rows. [92 (98: 108: 116: 126) sts]

Cont straight until armhole meas 8 (8¼: 8½: 9:

9½)in, 20 (21: 22: 23: 24)cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

Shape shoulders and back neck.

Cast off 8 (9: 10: 11: 13) sts at beg of next 2 rows. [76 (80: 88: 94: 100) sts]

Next row (RS) Cast off 8 (9: 10: 11: 13) sts, patt until there are 12 (13: 14: 16: 16) sts on right needle and turn, leaving rem sts on a holder. Work each side of neck separately.

Cast off 4 sts at beg of next row.

Cast off rem 8 (9: 10: 12: 12) sts.

With RS facing, rejoin yarn to rem sts, cast off centre 36 (36: 40: 40: 42) sts, patt to end.

Complete to match first side, reversing shapings.

POCKET LININGS (MAKE 2)

Cast on 34 sts using 4mm needles.

Beg with a K row, work in st st for 47 rows, ending with WS facing for next row.

Row 48 (WS) P2, M1, (P3, M1) 10 times, P1, M1, P1. [46 sts]

Break yarn and leave sts on a holder.

LEFT FRONT

Cast on 54 (58: 66: 70: 78) sts using 3¼mm needles.

Work in rib as given for back for 33 rows, ending with WS facing for next row.

Row 34 (WS) Rib 2, (M1, rib 2) 1 (5: 2: 8: 7) times, (M1, rib 3) 16 (12: 18: 12: 16) times, (M1, rib 2) 1 (5: 3: 8: 7) times. [72 (80: 89: 98: 108) sts]

Change to 4mm needles.

Beg and ending rows as indicated, now work in patt from Chart A as folls:

Work 52 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

PLACE POCKET

Next row (RS) Patt 13 (21: 20: 29: 39) sts, slip next 46 sts onto a holder and, in their place, patt across 46 sts of first pocket lining, patt 13 (13: 23: 23: 23) sts.



When crossing stocking stitch and reverse stocking stitch areas, you just have to remember that the stocking stitch always goes to the front.

knit tip

Be careful not to twist the cable needle when you knit the cabling stitches from it.

Cont straight until left front meas 10½ (11: 11½: 12: 12½) in, 27 (28: 29: 30: 31) cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

Keeping patt correct, dec 1 st at beg of next and 2 foll 12th rows, then on 2 foll 10th rows.

[67 (75: 84: 93: 103) sts]

Work 19 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Inc 1 st at beg of next row.

[68 (76: 85: 94: 104) sts]

Work 21 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE FRONT SLOPE

Keeping patt correct, dec 1 st at end of next and foll 4 (2: 5: 3: 4) alt rows, then on 3 (4: 2: 3: 3) foll 4th rows and at same time inc 1 st at beg of next row. [61 (70: 78: 88: 97) sts]

Work 1 (1: 3: 3: 1) rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE ARMHOLE

Keeping patt correct, cast off 10 (12: 14: 16: 18) sts at beg and dec 0 (0: 1: 1: 0) st at end of next row. [51 (58: 63: 71: 79) sts]

Work 1 row.

Dec 1 st at armhole edge of next 5 (7: 9: 11: 13) rows, then on foll 5 (6: 6: 7: 8) alt rows, then on 3 foll 4th rows and at same time dec 1 st at front slope edge of next (next: 3rd: 3rd: next) and 6 (7: 7: 8: 10) foll 4th rows. [31 (34: 37: 41: 44) sts]

Dec 1 st at front slope edge only on 2nd (2nd: 2nd: 4th) and 6 (6: 6: 6: 5) foll 4th rows. [24 (27: 30: 34: 38) sts]

Cont straight until left front matches back to beg of shoulder shaping, ending with RS facing for next row.

Cont straight until left front matches back to beg of shoulder shaping, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Cast off 8 (9: 10: 11: 13) sts at beg of next and foll alt row. Work 1 row.

Cast off rem 8 (9: 10: 12: 12) sts.

RIGHT FRONT

Work as given for left front to pocket placement row.

PLACE POCKET

Next row (RS) Patt 13 (13: 23: 23: 23) sts, slip next 46 sts onto a holder and, in their place, patt across 46 sts of second pocket lining, patt 13 (21: 20: 29: 39) sts.

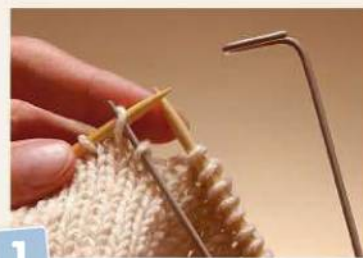
Cont straight until right front meas cast on 10½ (11: 11½: 12: 12½) in, 27 (28: 29: 30: 31) cm, ending



HOW TO...

ADD A POCKET

A simple way to add a useful pocket to a garment.



1

Slip the number of stitches you need onto a stitch holder, and then keep the holder at the front of the knitting.



2

Now knit the pocket lining from the stitch holder, in the place of those stitches.



3

When the left front is finished, knit the top of the pocket and then cast off.



4

Sew the lining in place by picking up the back of the stitch on the main piece.



5

After a press, your pocket is complete!



Pattern Info

Abbreviations

| | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| alt | alternate |
| beg | beginning |
| cont | continue |
| dec | decrease |
| fol | following |
| K | knit |
| meas | measures |
| P | purl |
| rep | repeat |
| rem | remaining |
| st(s) | stitch(es) |
| W(R)S | wrong (right) side |



The armhole borders are picked up and knit – divide evenly with pins to make it easier.



The button band is worked separately in rib and then sewn on, not worked on picked-up stitches.

Reader offer!
Save 10% off Rowan
Lenpur Linen
Knit this project for less with
Cucumberpatch – turn to page
71 to find out how.

with RS facing for next row.
Keeping patt correct, dec 1 st at end of next and 2 foll 12th rows, then on 2 foll 10th rows.
[67 (75: 84: 93: 103) sts]
Complete to match left front, but work from Chart B, reversing shapings.

TO MAKE UP

Block out each piece of knitting and, following the instructions on the ball band, press the garment pieces, omitting the ribs.
Join both shoulder seams using backstitch, or mattress stitch if preferred.

BUTTON BAND

Cast on 11 sts using 3¼mm needles.

Row 1 (RS) K2, (P1, K1) 4 times, K1.

Row 2 K1, (P1, K1) 5 times.

These 2 rows form rib.

Cont in rib until button band, when slightly stretched, fits up left front opening edge, up left front slope and across to centre back neck, ending with RS facing for next row.

Cast off in rib.

Slip stitch band in place. Mark positions for 4 buttons on this band – first to come level with row 1 of chart, last to come just below beg of front slope shaping and rem 2 buttons evenly spaced between.

BUTTONHOLE BAND

Cast on 11 sts using 3¼mm needles.

Work in rib as given for button band until this band, when slightly stretched, fits up right front opening edge, up right front slope and across to centre back neck, ending with RS facing for next row and with the addition of 4 buttonholes worked to correspond with positions marked for buttons as follows:

Buttonhole row (RS) Rib 4, cast off 3 sts (to make a buttonhole – cast on 3 sts over these cast-off sts on next row), rib to end.

When band is complete, cast off in rib.

Join cast-off edges of bands, then slip stitch this band in place.

ARMHOLE BORDERS (BOTH ALIKE)

With RS facing and using 3¼mm needles, pick up and knit 126 (134: 142: 150: 158) sts evenly all round armhole edge.

Beg with row 2, work in rib as given for back for 8 rows, ending with WS facing for next row.

Cast off in rib (on WS).

POCKET TOPS (BOTH ALIKE)

Slip 46 sts left on pocket holder onto 3¼mm needles and rejoin yarn with RS facing.

Row 1 (RS) K2tog, (K2, k2tog) 11 times. [34 sts]

Beg with row 2, work in rib as given for back for 10 rows, ending with WS facing for next row.

Cast off in rib (on WS).

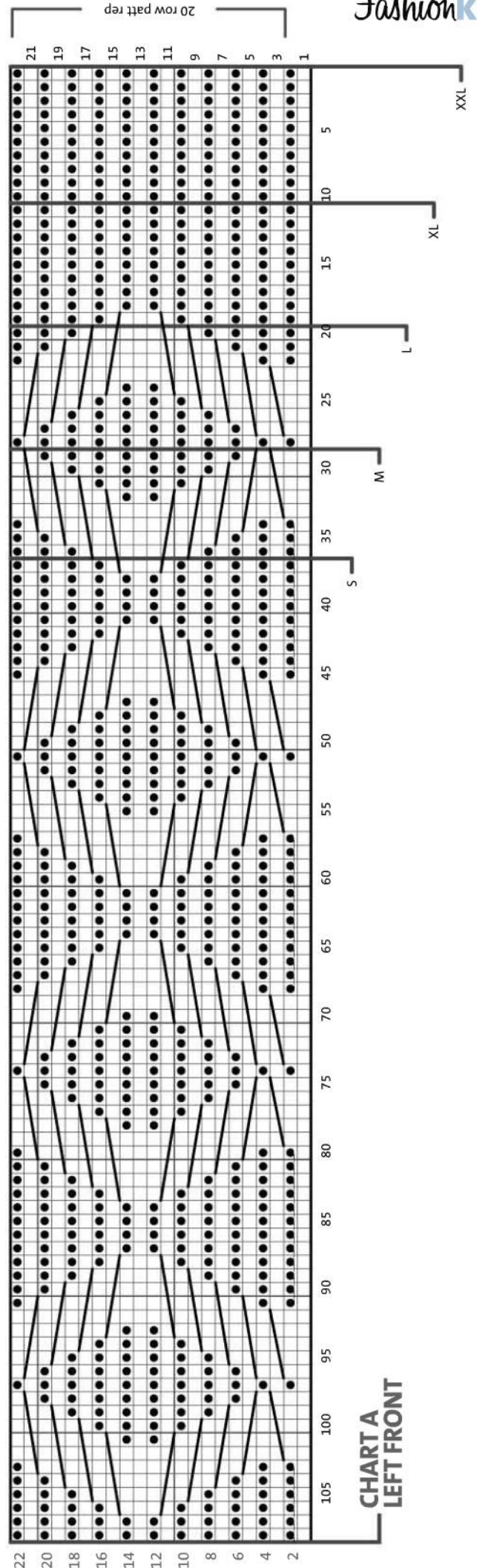
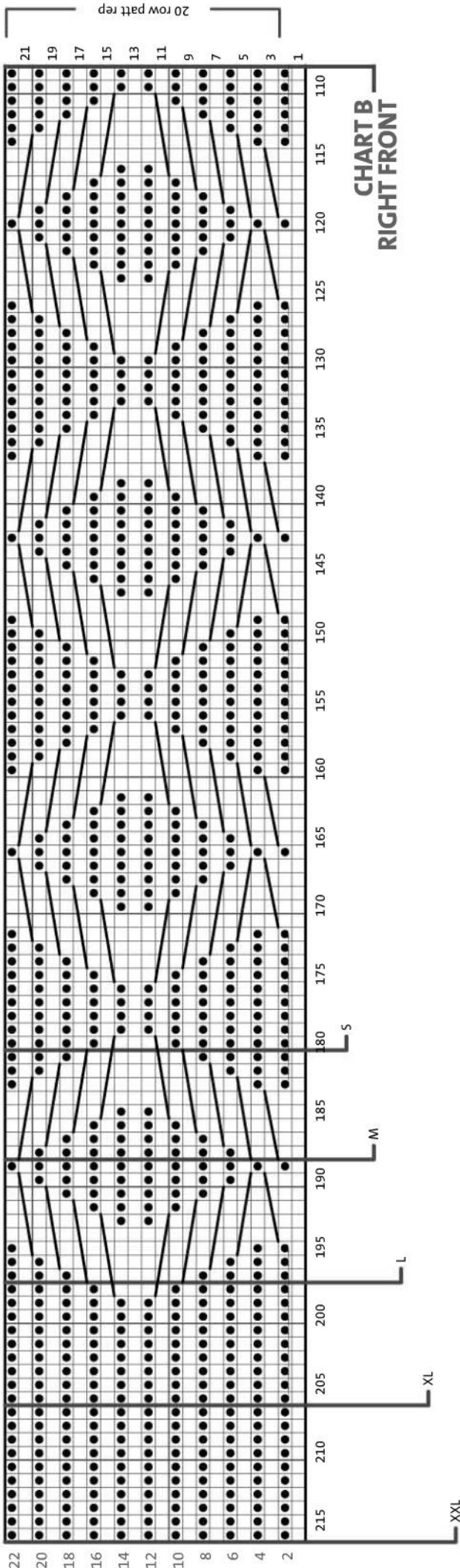
Use a seam stitch such as backstitch or mattress stitch for all main knitting seams and join all ribs and neckband with mattress stitch, unless otherwise stated.

Next month, knit a beautiful lacy lilac cardigan from designer Ruth Maddock. Issue 70, August, will be on sale Thursday 15 July.

How to use our charts

Each row of squares represents a row of knitting, and each stitch is represented by a symbol. Start knitting at the bottom right.

KEY □ Kon RS, Pon WS ● Kon RS, Kon WS Cr6L Cr6R



Rowan stockists

If you're looking for Rowan yarns, all these shops can help you find just what you need. Drop into your local shop, give them a ring or buy online.

SOUTH EAST

We Three

16 Crown Street,
Brentwood Essex
CM14 484

01277221709

greenfingered45@aol.com

SOUTH EAST

JJ Wool & Crafts

89 Station Road
Chingford
London E4 7BU

0208 523 7172

jjwoolandcrafts@yahoo.co.uk

SOUTH EAST

Purl

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01273 248642

purl@brighton@gmail.com

SOUTH EAST

The Yarn Barn

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Hampshire PO4 8EA

023 9275 2555

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www.theyarnbarnltd.co.uk

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Carly's Crafts

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BH9 1BJ

01202 512106

michelek1964@hotmail.com

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www.knittingyarns.co.uk

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Devon TQ13 9AD

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info@spinayarndevon.co.uk
www.spinayarndevon.co.uk

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Hayes Wools

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Taunton Somerset
TA1 3HT

01823 284768

hayeswools@btconnect.com

SOUTH WEST

Hulu

Sentinel House
Poundwell
Modbury Devon
PL21 0XX

www.hulucrafts.co.uk

WEST MIDLANDS

Material Girls

9 Market Place
Alcester B49 5AE

01789 763733

material@girls.orangehome.co.uk

WEST MIDLANDS

Threads of Life

67 Borough Street
Castle Donington
Derby DE74 2LB

01332 811597

info@threadsoflife.co.uk
www.threadsoflife.co.uk

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Wool in Broadway

2 Cotswold Court
Broadway Worcester
Worcestershire
WR12 7AA

01386 853779

pat.davies2@ntlworld.com

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Bags Of Handles

288 High Street
Felixstowe
IP11 9EB

01394 279868

www.bagsofhandles.co.uk

NORTH YORKSHIRE

Beckside Yarns & Needlecraft

Beckside Gallery, Church Avenue,
Clapham Via Lancaster,
North Yorkshire LA2 8EA

01524 251122

info@becksideyarns.co.uk

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Sew-In of Didsbury

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Didsbury, Manchester
M20 6RN

0161 445 5861

www.knitting-and-needlework.co.uk

NORTH WEST

Home Made UK

3 Mill Street
Nantwich, Cheshire
CW5 5ST

01270 625318

andyozard@btopenworld.com
www.homemadeuk.com

NORTH WEST

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Cheshire CH3 7JN

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sales@laughinghens.com
www.laughinghens.com

SCOTLAND

Mandors

Fleming House
134 Renfrew Street
Glasgow G3 6ST

01413 327716

fabric@mandors.co.uk
www.mandors.co.uk

SCOTLAND

Outback Yarns

130 - 132 King Street
Castle Douglas
Kirkcudbrightshire DG7 1LU

sarahmckie@btinternet.com
www.outbackyarns.com

NORTHERN IRELAND

The Glen Gallery

48 Fenagh Road
Cullybackey Co. Antrim
BT43 5PH

02825 880354

ONLINE

Peachey Ethknits

01245 327006

ethknits@gmail.com
www.ethknits.co.uk

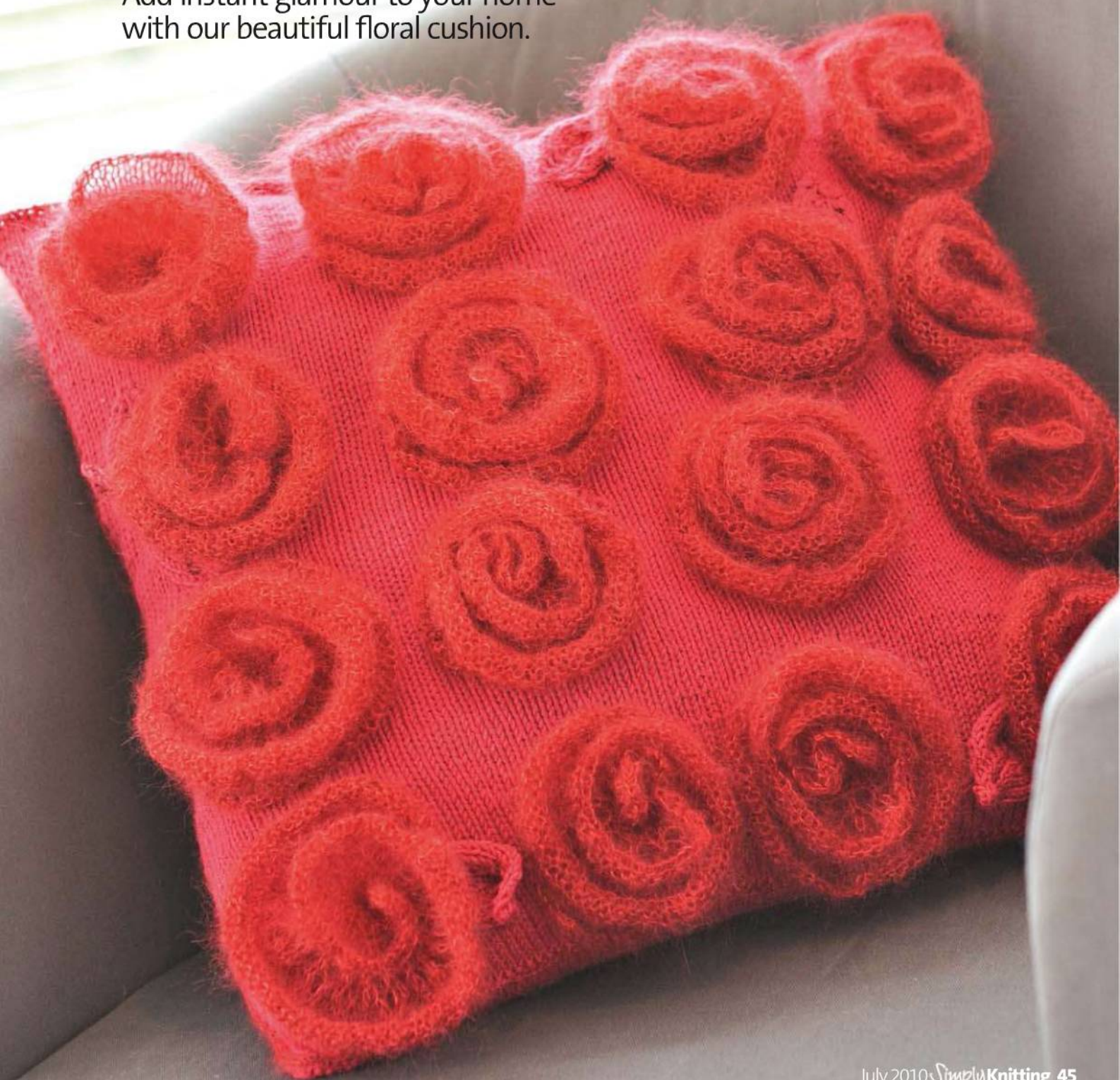
Please mention **Simply Knitting**
when you contact these
companies

BY AMANDA JONES

Ruby Rose

Gorgeous
'new home'
gift

Add instant glamour to your home
with our beautiful floral cushion.





Pattern Info

You will need...

Rowan, Wool Cotton

Rich (911), 3 x 50g/113m balls

Rowan, Kidsilk Haze

Blood (627), 4 x 50g/210m balls

A pair of 4mm needles

A pair of 5mm needles

A 2mm crochet hook

One 16in (40cm) cushion pad

For where to buy, see page 92

Tension

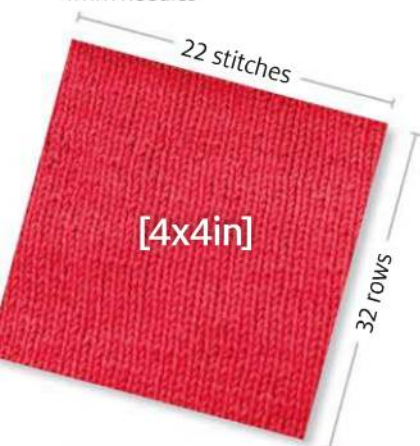
Yarn used for the cushion knits as

DK to this tension:

22 sts and 32 rows to measure 4x4in

(10x10cm) over stocking stitch using

4mm needles



Abbreviations

| | |
|-------|-----------------------------|
| alt | alternate |
| beg | beginning |
| foll | following |
| dc | double crochet |
| K | knit |
| k2tog | knit 2 sts together |
| P | purl |
| rep | repeat |
| st(s) | stitch(es) |
| tbl | through back of loop |
| yf | yarn forward (to make a st) |

The back is easy to sew and make up.

If you need to wash your cushion cover, do it by hand and reshape the roses while they dry.

Romantic red roses don't just come in bouquets. With our gorgeous cushion you can add a longer-lasting splash of rosy style to a bedroom or living room.

"This really is a very simple design to knit as the base of the cushion is just straightforward stocking stitch," says designer Amanda Jones.

"The flowers, knitted in the Kidsilk Haze, are knitted using the yarn forward increase method, so you can make them as big or small as you like. It's worth taking care when knitting with Kidsilk Haze as it is very difficult to unpick!"

You can customise your cushion with a simple change of yarn. "You could work the roses in the Rowan Wool Cotton, to match the base, to create a slightly different look," explains Amanda.

Start knitting here

CUSHION FRONT

Cast on 90 sts using 4mm needles and Wool Cotton yarn.

Beg with a knit row, working in st st throughout, work until the fabric measures 16½in (41cm) from beg, ending on a WS row.

Cast off.

BACK FIRST HALF

Cast on 90 sts using 4mm needles and Wool Cotton yarn.

Beg with a knit row, work in st st until the fabric measures 11in (28cm), ending on a RS row. Work 8 rows of garter st then cast off.

SECOND HALF

Cast on 90 sts using 4mm needles and Wool Cotton yarn.

Beg with a knit row, work in st st until the fabric measures 12in (30cm) ending on a WS row. Work 4 rows garter st then cast off.

FLOWERS (MAKE 12)

Cast on 20 sts using 5mm needles and Kidsilk Haze yarn.

Row 1 Knit.

Row 2 (RS)

K1, *yf, K1; rep from * to end.

Row 3 and every foll alt row Purl.

Row 4 Knit.

Row 6 K1, *yf, K1; rep from * to end.

Row 8 K1, *yf, K1; rep from * to end.

Cast off 20 sts at the beg of the next 6 rows, then cast off rem sts.

TO MAKE FLOWER

Work a row of running st along the cast on edge of the flower and pull up to form flower. Attach to the cushion.

LEAF (MAKE 12)

Cast on 3 sts using 4mm needles and wool cotton.

Row 1 Knit.

Row 2 (RS) K1, yf, K1, yf, K1. [5 sts]

Row 3 and every foll alt row Purl.

Row 4 K2, yf, K1, yf, K2. [7 sts]

Row 6 K3, yf, K1, yf, K3. [9 sts]

Row 8 K4, yf, K1, yf, K4. [11 sts]

Row 10 K5, yf, K1, yf, K5. [13 sts]

Row 12 K4, k2tog tbl, K1, k2tog, K4. [11 sts]

Row 14 K3, k2tog tbl, K1, k2tog, K3. [9 sts]

Row 16 K2, k2tog tbl, K1, k2tog, K2. [7 sts]

Row 18 K1, k2tog tbl, K1, k2tog, K1. [5 sts]

Row 20 K1, sl1, k2tog, psso, K1. [3 sts]

Row 21 P3tog.

Fasten off.

Attach to cushion under flowers.

TO MAKE UP

Overlap the second half of the back with the first half and sew together with the front of the cushion with RS together. Turn to right side.

Using 2mm crochet hook and Kidsilk Haze, with front facing work a row of dc all around the edges, working into each stitch down the sides and 3 sts into the corner stitch then into each stitch along the bottom and top.

Work a row of dc across the top edge of the back opening.



Quick & Easy Knits

10
FABULOUS
DESIGNS

Here are ten fabulous designs to create for family and friends – choose your favourite and get knitting!



Cut along dotted line



Cut along dotted line

PART TWO

BEACH BLANKET

Sit on it, wrap yourself up in it – you can even dry the kids on it if they forget their towels! This bright crocheted blanket is made for seaside fun.

You will need...

Sublime, Soya Cotton DK
MS Souk (146)
16 x 50g/110m balls
1st C Noodle (85)
6 x 50g/110m balls
2nd C Tobago (147)
6 x 50g/110m balls
A 4mm crochet hook

Measurements

Blanket diameter
47x72½in (119x184cm)

Abbreviations

| | | | |
|-------|-------------|-------|---------------|
| beg | beginning | sp | space |
| ch | chain | tr | treble |
| RS | right side | ttr | triple treble |
| rep | repeat | MS | main shade |
| st(s) | stitch(es) | 1st C | 1st contrast |
| ss | slip stitch | 2nd C | 2nd contrast |

Start crocheting here

BORDER

Round 1 With RS of centre panel facing and 1st C, join yarn into first 5 ch sp of foundation row and work 3 ch, 2 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr, *(3 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr) into next 5 ch sp; rep from * to end of row, 5 ch (for corner), work up side of centre panel thus: ** (3 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr) into the end ch sp of patt rows 1 and 3; rep from ** to top edge, 5 ch (for corner), work along top edge thus: *** (3 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr) into next ch sp; rep from *** to end of row, 5 ch (for corner), work down side of centre panel thus: **** (3 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr) into the end ch sp of patt rows 3 and 1; rep from **** to bottom edge, 5 ch (for corner), ss to top of 3 ch at beg of round, break off 1st C.

Round 2 In 2nd C join yarn into first 3 ch sp of previous round and work (3 ch, 2 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr), *miss next 6 tr, (3 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr) into next 3 ch sp; rep from * to corner, into corner 5 ch work (3 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr), **miss next 3 tr, (3 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr) into next 3 ch sp, *miss next 6 tr, (3 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr) into next 3 ch sp; rep from * to corner, into corner 5 ch work (3 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr), rep from ** twice more, ss to top of 3 ch at beg of round, break off 2nd C.

Round 3 In 1st C join yarn into first 3 ch sp of previous round and work (3 ch, 2 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr), *miss next 6 tr, (3 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr) into next 3 ch sp; rep from * to corner, 5 ch, **miss next 3 tr, (3 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr) into next 3 ch sp, *miss next 6 tr, (3 tr, 3 ch, 3 tr) into next 3 ch sp; rep from * to corner, 5 ch, rep from ** twice more, ss to top of 3 ch at beg of round, break off 1st C.



Rep rounds 2 and 3 twice more, then round 2 again.

Round 9 In 1st C join yarn into first 3 ch sp of previous round and work (3 ch, 2 tr, 4 ch, ss into 3rd ch from hook, 1 ch, 3 tr), *miss next 6 tr, (3 tr, 4 ch, ss into 3rd ch from hook, 1 ch, 3 tr) into next 3 ch sp; rep from * to corner, **miss next 3 tr, (3 tr, 4 ch, ss into 3rd ch from hook, 1 ch, 3 tr) into next 3 ch sp, *miss next 6 tr, (3 tr, 4 ch, ss into 3rd ch from hook, 1 ch, 3 tr) into next 3 ch sp; rep from * to corner, rep from ** twice more, ss to top of 3 ch at beg of round, break off 1st C.

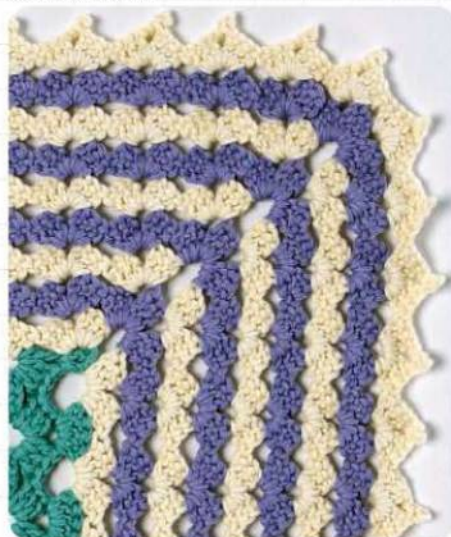
TO MAKE UP

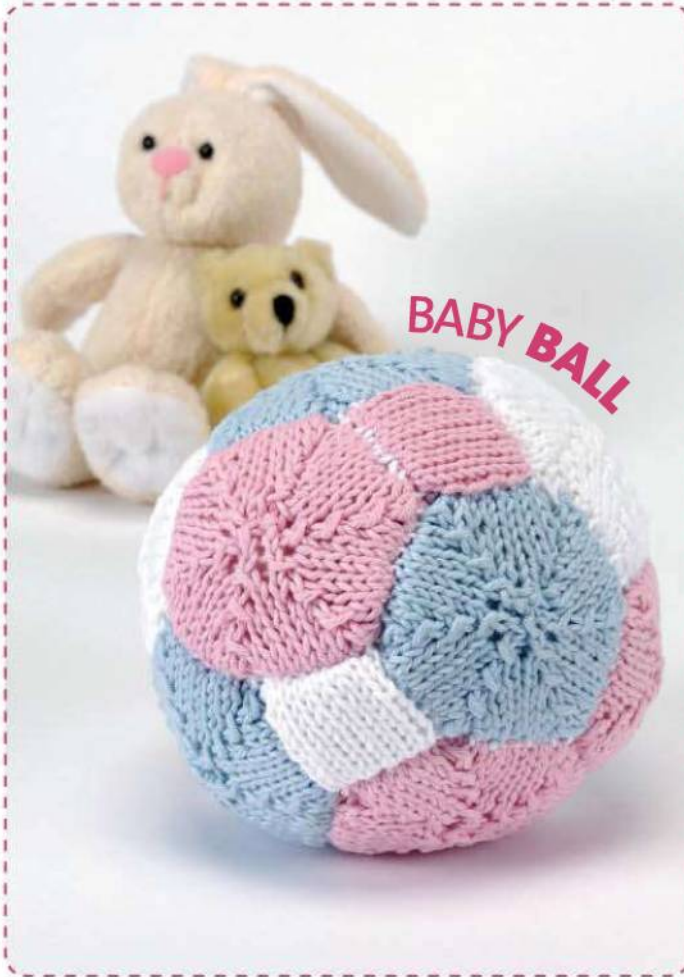
Sew in ends.

Press carefully following instructions on ball band.

If you missed last issue, which contained the centre panel of the blanket, turn to page 78 to find out how to get a copy.

CORNER DETAIL





Cut along dotted line



For where to buy, see page 92



Cut along dotted line

MAN'S LUGGAGE TAG

You will need...

Stock yarn from your stash
A pair of 2½mm needles
A 3mm crochet hook

Measurements

Luggage tag
2¼ x 4in (7.5 x 10cm)

Abbreviations

K knit
st(s) stitch(es)

✿ Start knitting here

TAG

Cast on 20 sts using 2½mm needles.

Knit the following 6 rows.

Row 7 K8, cast off 4 sts, K to end of row.

Row 8 K8, cast on 4 sts, K to end of row.

Knit 6 more rows.

Next row K5, P10, K5.

Next row Knit.

Rep these 2 rows 12 more times.

Knit the following 24 rows.

Next row K5, cast off 10, K5.

Next row K5.

Continue to knitting these 5 sts for 24 rows.

Rejoin the yarn and K 24 rows on the other 5 sts.

Next row K5, cast on 10 sts, K5.

Knit 5 rows.

Next row K8, cast off 4 sts, K to end of row.

Next row K8, cast on 4 sts, K to end of row.

Knit 6 more rows and cast off.

Fold the tag in half length way, and work a double crochet round the edge of the tag, leaving the top edge open.

STRAP

Make a 80 st ch using a 3mm crochet hook.

Row 1 Miss 1 and work a double crochet st into every chain. When you get to the end of the chain work 3 double crochets into the last chain st.

Continue down the other side of the chain working a double crochet into every chain st.

Fasten off.



PRETTY FLOWERS

You will need...

DK yarn stash in colour required for flowers, plus small amount of green
A 3.5mm crochet hook
Green pipe cleaners
Pearl bead for the centre of the flower

Abbreviations

ch chain
tr treble
dtr double treble
ss slip stitch

✿ Start crocheting here

FLOWER

With 3.5mm hook, and leaving a long end of yarn, make 34 ch.

Row 1 (RS), 1 tr into 4th ch from hook, 1tr into each ch to end. [32 sts]

Row 2 3 ch (counts as first tr), 3 dtr into next and each tr to last st, 1tr into top of 3ch. [92 sts]

Fasten off.

STEM CUP

Using green yarn and 3.5mm hook, make 6 ch and join with a ss to form a ring.

Row 1 (RS) 3 ch, 17 tr into ring, ss to top of 3 ch, [18 sts]

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Starting at beginning of chain edge, wrap flower anticlockwise stitching the base together as you go (using long end of thread left at beginning). When complete secure end. Attach pearl bead to centre of flower. Fold pipe cleaner in half and sew looped end to back of flower. Thread the other end of the pipe cleaner through the centre of the stem cup and take it up to the back of the flower. Sew around edge of stem cup to back of flower securely. Make sure all ends are sewn in.



BABY BALL

You will need...

Sublime, Baby Cotton Kapok DK
1 x 50g/116m ball of each: Fairycake (157), Beaker (154) and Rice (156)
A pair of 3mm needles
Toy stuffing

Measurements

Ball circumference when stuffed
16¼in (41cm)

Abbreviations

K knit
k2tog knit 2 sts together
psso pass slipped st over
sl slip st
ssk slip 1 st, slip the next st, knit both sts together
st(s) stitch(es)
rep repeat
rem remaining

✿ Start knitting here

PENTAGON (1 white, 1 pink)

Cast on 46 sts using 3mm needles.

Row 1 and every alt row Purl.

Row 2 K2tog, K6, *sl 1, k2tog, PSSO, K6; rep from * 4 times, sl 1, K1, PSSO. [36 sts]

Row 4 K2tog, K4, *sl 1, k2tog, PSSO, K4; rep from * 4 times, sl 1, K1, PSSO. [26 sts]

Row 6 K2tog, K2, *sl 1, k2tog, PSSO, K2; rep from * 4 times, sl 1, K1, PSSO. [16 sts]

Row 8 K2tog, *sl 1, k2tog, PSSO; rep from * 4 times, sl 1, K1, PSSO. [6 sts]

Row 10 Sl 1, K1, PSSO, sl 1, K1, PSSO. [3 sts]

Break yarn. Run end through rem 3 sts. Draw close and seam two edges together.

HEXAGON (4 blue, 3 white, 3 pink)

Cast on 55 sts using 3mm needles.

Row 1 and every alt row Purl.

Row 2 K2tog, K6, *sl 1, k2tog, PSSO, K6; rep from * 5 times, sl 1, K1, PSSO. [43 sts]

Row 4 K2tog, K4, *sl 1, k2tog, PSSO, K4; rep from * 5 times, sl 1, K1, PSSO. [31 sts]

Row 6 K2tog, K2, *sl 1, k2tog, PSSO, K2; rep from * 5 times, sl 1, K1, PSSO. [19 sts]

Row 8 K2tog, *sl 1, k2tog, PSSO; rep from * 5 times, sl 1, K1, PSSO. [7 sts]

Row 10 Sl 1, K2tog, PSSO, K1, sl 1, k2tog, psso.
Break yarn. Run end through rem 3 sts. Draw close and seam two edges together.

SQUARE (2 white, 2 pink, 1 blue)

Cast on 9 sts using 3mm needles.

Starting with a knit row, st st 11 rows.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

With wrong sides facing, join five hexagons to each pentagon to create 2 'flowers'.

Now place squares into the five 'V' shapes on one 'flower'. Join this side to the other flower, leaving on seam undone.

Turn right way out and stuff firmly.

Join final seam.



knit tip
Put bells inside the ball: make a small bag to put them in and they'll be secure in the ball.



LACY
SCARF

ONE-BALL
SCARF!



CROCHET HAIRBAND



KNEE-HIGH SOCKS



Cut along dotted line

For where to buy, see page 92



Cut along dotted line

CROCHET HAIRBAND

You will need...

Bergere De France, Ideal Belladone (223.751), 1 x 50g/125m ball
A 4.5mm crochet hook
A button

Abbreviations

ch chain
dc double crochet
dtr double treble
sp space
sl st slip stitch
tr treble
tr4tog yarn round hook, insert hk and pull yrn through, yrn round hk and pull through first 2 loops on hk. Rep another 3 times until 5 loops on hk, yrn rd hook and pull through all five loops on hk. 3 ch and sl st into same ch sp

Start crocheting here

HEADBAND

Make a chain of 13 sts using 4.5mm hook.
Row 1 Dc into 2nd ch from hook, and cont with a row of dc until end, turn.
Row 2 1 ch (does not count as st) cont dc until end of row. Work rows of dc as set in row 2 until headband meas approx 19½in (50cm), or the length needed to fit head, join the ends together. **Fasten off.**

LARGE FLOWER

Ch 6 using a 4.5mm hook and sl st to first ch to form a ring.
Round 1 Ch 3 and tr17 into the ring, sl st to top of first tr of round.
Round 2 Ch 6, dtr in first st of round. *2 ch, dtr in next st; rep from * until last st of round, 2 ch and sl st to 4th ch of 6 at beg of round.
Round 3 Ch 3, tr4tog in first ch sp, *sl st into next ch sp, 3 ch, tr4tog, 3 ch, sl st into same ch sp; rep from * until the round is complete.

MEDIUM FLOWER

Work as for large flower but with Round 2 as folls:
Ch 5, tr in first st of round. *2 ch, tr in next st. Repeat from * until last st of round, 2 ch and sl st to 3rd ch of 5 at beg of round.

SMALL FLOWER

Round 1 2 ch, 7 dc into 1st ch and sl st to 1st dc of round.
Round 2 Ch 5, tr into next st. *2 ch, tr into next st; rep from * to last st of round, sl st to 3rd of 5 ch at beg of round.
Round 3 as for large flower.
Layer the flowers with the largest at the bottom. Secure with a button in the centre.

LACY SCARF

You will need...

4ply yarn from your stash
A pair of 4mm needles

Measurements

Scarf with border
56x5½in (140x14cm)

Abbreviations

K knit
P purl
st(s) stitch(es)
k2tog knit 2 sts together
p2tog purl 2 sts together
sl 1 slip 1 st
psso pass the slipped st over
yf bring yarn to front
yrn wrap yarn round needle

Tension

28 sts and 21 rows to measure 4x4in (10x10cm) over pattern using 4mm needles

Start knitting here

Cast on 30 sts.
Work 2 rows st st.

Work in lace patt as follows:

Row 1 K1 (K2, k2tog, yf, K3) 4 times, K1.
Row 2 K1, (P1, sl 1, P1, psso, yrn, P1, yrn, p2tog, P1) 4 times, K1.
Row 3 K1, (k2tog, yf, K3, yf, sl 1, k1, psso) 4 times, K1.
Rows 4 & 8 K1, P28, K1.
Row 5 K1, (yf, sl 1, k1, psso, K5) 4 times, K1.
Row 6 K1, (yrn, p2tog, P2, sl 1, P1, psso, yrn, P1) 4 times, K1.
Row 7 K1, (K2, yf, sl 1, k1, psso, k2tog, yf, K1) 4 times, K1.
Rep rows 1-8 a further 25 times.
Work 2 rows st st.
Cast off.

FRILL Make 1 at each end.

Pick up 30 sts all along cast on or cast off edge.

Row 1 (K1, yf) to last st, K1. [59 sts]
Work 3 rows st st.
Next row K1, (yf, K3) to last st, yf, K1. [79 sts]
Work 3 rows st st.
Next row K2, (yf, K5) to last st, yf, K2.
Work 3 rows st st.
Cast off.

KNEE HIGH SOCKS

You will need...

Regia, Hand-Dye Effect Amethyst (6553), 1 x 100g/420m ball
A set of 2½mm double pointed needles
A stitch marker

Tension

30 sts and 42 rows to measure 4x4in (10x10cm) over st st using 2½mm needles

Measurements

Women's S M L
Sock Length 13in (33cm)

Abbreviations

cont continue
K knit
k2tog knit 2 sts together
P purl
sl slip stitch
ssk slip, slip, knit
rep repeat
yo yarn over

Start knitting here

SOCK (make two the same)

Cast on 68 (72: 76) sts using 2½mm needles.

Join in round, placing marker to show start.

CABLE CUFF

Round 1 (K2, P2) to end.

Round 2 *K2tog tbl and knit again through front loops, P2, rep from * to end.

Round 3 *K1, yo, K1, P2, rep from * to end.

Round 4 *SSK, K1, P2 to end of round.

Rep this four row pattern three times. Now K every round placing dec rounds as follows:

When knitting meas 4½in (11cm) *K15 (16: 17), k2tog; rep from * to end of round. [64 (68: 72) sts]

When knitting meas 6½in (16cm) *K14 (15: 16), k2tog; rep from * to end of round. [60 (64: 68) sts]

When knitting meas 8½in (21cm) *K13 (14: 15), k2tog; rep from * to end of round. [56 (60: 64) sts]

When knitting meas 10½in (26cm) *K12 (13: 14), k2tog; rep from * to end of round. [52 (56: 60) sts]

Cont until sock meas 13in (33cm).



knit tip

For a nice wide fancy cuff, repeat the twist pattern a further seven times

DIVIDE FOR HEEL

K the first 26 (28: 30) sts on to one needle, leaving the rem sts on a spare needle.

Rows 1 Sl 1, P to end.

Row 2 Sl 1, K to end.

Repeat these 2 rows 8 times more, then Row 1 once more.

TURN HEEL

Row 1 (RS) K16, ssk, K1, turn work.

Row 2 (WS) Sl 1, P4, p2tog, P1, turn work.

Row 3 Sl 1, K5, ssk, K1, turn work.

Row 4 Sl 1, P6, p2tog, P1, turn work. Cont in this way until 16 sts remain.

GUSSET

With RS facing, K8 sts, with second needle K8 sts, then pick up and knit 10 sts down side of heel. K all 26 (28: 30) sts on third needle, then pick up and K 10 sts up side of heel flap, then K the 8 sts on the

first needle.

ROUND 1 Needle 1 K to last 3 sts, k2tog, K1, Needle 2 Knit, Needle 3 K1, ssk, K to end of needle.

Round 2 K all three needles

Rep last 2 rounds until:

Needle 1 13 (14: 15) sts rem, Needle 2 26 (28: 30) sts, Needle 3 13 (14: 15) sts rem.

SHAPE TOE

ROUND 1 Needle 1 K1, ssk, K to last 3 sts, k2tog, K1, Needle 2 K1, ssk, K to end of needle, Needle 3 K to last 3 sts.

Round 2 Knit.

Rep last 2 rounds until 32 (36: 40) sts rem. Rep round 1 until 24 sts rem (all sizes). Place sts from needles 1 and 3 onto one needle. With right side facing, graft the toe using Kitchener stitch.



CREATON
HOLIDAY!

DRAWSTRING SHOE BAG



GIRL'S LEGWARMERS



TOP IDEAS
FOR KIDS!



BOY'S PEAKED CAP



Cut along dotted line



For where to buy, see page 92



Cut along dotted line

GIRL'S LEG WARMERS

You will need...

Sirdar, Bonus DK
Cerise (984),
1 x 100g/280m ball
A pair of 4mm needles

Abbreviations

| | |
|-------|----------------------|
| K | knit |
| k2tog | knit 2 sts together |
| yo | yarn over |
| K | knit |
| k2tog | knit 2 sts together |
| P | purl |
| psso | pass slipped st over |
| rep | repeat |
| st(s) | stitch(es) |
| sl | slip stitch |
| yo | yarn over |



Start knitting here

Cast on 46 sts using 4mm needles.
Start cuff rib.
Row 1 (RS) Sl 1, P2, *K2, P3; rep from * to last 3 sts, K2, P1.
Row 2 Sl 1, P2, *K3, P2; rep from * to last 3 sts, K3
These 2 rows form the rib pattern; rep them 5 more times [12 rows]

Start the zigzag pattern as foll:
Row 1 Sl 1, P2, *k2tog, yo, P3; rep from * to last st, P1.
Row 2 & every alt row Work sts as they appear, purling the yos.
Row 3 Sl 1, P1, *k2tog, yo, P3; rep from * to last 4 sts, k2tog, yo, P2.
Row 5 Sl 1 *k2tog, yo P3; rep from * to end of row.
Row 7 Sl 1, *yo, sl 1, K1, psso, P3; rep from * to end of row.
Row 9 Sl 1, P1, yo. sl 1, K1, psso, * P3, yo, sl 1, K1, psso; rep from * to last 2 sts, P2.
Row 11 Sl 1, P2, *yo, sl 1, K1, psso, P3; rep from * to last 3 sts, yo, sl 1, K1, psso, P1.
These 12 rows form the pattern; rep them 2 more times. [3 pattern repeats]
Rep the rows 1 and 2 for the cuff rib for 12 rows and cast off in the rib pattern.

TO MAKE UP
Sew up the seam and weave in all loose ends.

DRAWSTRING SHOE BAG

You will need...

Rowan, Pure Wool DK
1 x 50g/125m ball of each:
Yarn A Avocado (019)
Yarn B Enamel (013)
Yarn C Parsley (020)
A 4mm circular needle
A pair of 4mm needles
A metre of green cord

Measurements

Bag
11x10½in (28x26.5cm)

Tension

22 sts and 30 rows to measure 4x4in (10x10cm) over st st using 4mm needles

Start knitting here

Cast on 120 sts using 4mm circular needle and yarn A.
Starting with a purl row st st 8 rows.
Row 9 Knit, to form a fold line.
Row 10 Knit. When you get to the end of the row join into the round, adding a stitch marker for the start of a round.

STRIPE PATTERN

6 rounds in Yarn A, 2 rounds in yarn B and 6 rounds in Yarn C.
Continue to knit every round to form st st work the stripe pattern as set above. Repeat the stripe pattern 6 times in total meas approx 11in (28cm)
Next knit 30 sts.
Divide the stitch in half, turn the knitting inside out so the purl side is on the outside and work a 3 needle cast off.

POCKET

Cast on 27 sts using a 4mm needles and yarn C.
Row 1 Knit.
Row 2 P3, *K3, P3; rep from * to end of row.
Repeat these 2 row 14 times. [28 rows] **Cast off.**

TO MAKE UP

Sew the pocket on to the front of the bag. Fold the top of the bag at the fold line. Thread the cord through the channel and tie the ends together.



BOY'S PEAKED CAP

You will need...

Artesano, 100% Alpaca DK
Brazil (5340),
1 x 50g/100m ball
A pair of 3½mm needles
Plastic canvas

Tension

24 sts and 30 rows to measure 4x4in (10x10cm) over st st using 3½mm needles

Measurements

Hat circumference
14in (35cm)

Abbreviations

| | |
|--------|---|
| K | knit |
| P | purl |
| psso | pass slipped stitch over |
| st(s) | stitch(es) |
| sl | slip stitch |
| st st | stocking stitch |
| wrapst | bring yarn to front, sl 1, take yarn to back. |

Start knitting here

Cast on 92 sts using 3½mm needles
Work a K1, P1 rib for 1½in (4cm).
PEAK
Next row Rib 58 sts, wrap next st, turn.
Next row (RS) Sl wrapped st, purl 25 sts, wrap next st, turn.
Next row Sl wrapped st, knit 24 sts, wrap next st, turn.
Next row Sl wrapped st, purl 23 sts, wrap next st, turn.
Continue to short row shape as set until:
Next row Sl wrapped st, knit 14 sts, wrap next st, turn.
Next row Sl wrapped st to wrapped st, st st to wrapped st, work wrapped st, turn.
Next row Sl 1, st st to wrapped st, work wrapped st, turn.
Continue to work as set until all the sts for the peak have been worked, rib to the end of the row.
Work a further 1½in (4cm) in K1, P1 rib, ending with a WS row. [92 sts]

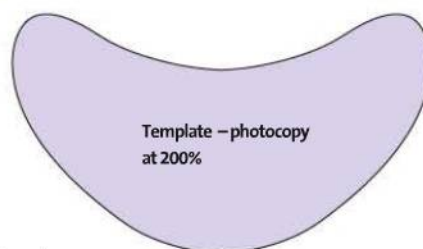


Next row Knit.
Next row Purl.
Continue in st st for 2in (5cm).
Start shaping for the top of the hat.
Next row (RS) Sl 1, *K8, sl 1, K1, psso; rep from * to last st, K1
Next row Purl.
Next row Sl 1, *K7, sl 1, K1, psso; rep from *

to last st, K1
Next row Purl.
Next row Sl 1, *K6, sl 1, K1, psso; rep from * to last st, K1
Next row Purl.
Continue to decrease as set until you have 11 sts. Break the yarn and thread through the sts, fast the yarn off.

TO MAKE UP

Sew up the seam of the hat. Using the template below (photocopy at 200%) cut out the plastic canvas and insert into the peak of the hat. Use some matching yarn to sew the peak in place.



Bright Lily

BY AMANDA CRAWFORD

Accessorize with bright florals this summer – our glam lily hair comb and necklace set is perfect for weddings or parties





Pattern Info

You will need...

Katia, Mykonos

Fuchsia (2804), 1 x 50g/100m ball
A pair of 3¼mm needles
Crystal beads (gold)
Crystal and bead hair twists (on long wire)
Rocaille (seed) beads (gold)
Hair comb
Ribbon

All beads & accessories from
HobbyCraft. General enquiries: 01202
596100; to order 0845 051 6599 or
visit www.hobbycraft.co.uk

For where to buy, see page 92

Tension

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension:

21 sts and 28 rows to measure 4x4in
(10x10cm) over stocking stitch using
3¼mm needles

Abbreviations

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| K | knit |
| P | purl |
| k2tog | knit 2 stitches together |
| k3tog | knit 3 stitches together |
| st(s) | stitch(es) |
| inc | increase |

*Satin and glitter: knit
some glam!*



*Foil-lined beads give
extra sparkle.*

Bright, beautiful and utterly stunning, designer Amanda Crawford's knitted lily accessories are guaranteed to transform the plainest of outfits into an ensemble that's guaranteed to turn heads. Created from Katia's Mykonos, a glittering ribbon yarn, these accessories will shimmer and shine when they catch the light, adding to their dazzling effect.

Perfect for a summery evening out, they are ideal if you are going to any summer weddings. In recent years fascinators have become a popular alternative to the more traditional wedding hats, and the lily comb performs this role perfectly. The necklace and comb are also pretty versatile, and would look equally good worn with a smart suit for the ceremony itself as they would with a more casual dress for the evening do.

Designer Amanda Crawford says, "Wiring the petals using the ends of the stamens is a little tricky but it's well worth doing as otherwise your flower will have no shape or form."



Start knitting here

LILY HAIR COMB PETALS (MAKE 5)

Cast on 3 sts using 3¼mm needles.

Knit 1 row, purl 1 row.

Next row (RS) K1, inc, K1, inc, K1. [5 sts]

Next row P1, inc, P3, inc, P1. [7 sts]

Next row K1, inc, K1, k3tog, K1, inc, K1. [7 sts]

Next row P1, inc, P5, inc, P1. [9 sts]

Next row K1, inc, K2, k3tog, K2, inc, K1. [9 sts]

Next row P1, inc, P7, inc, P1. [11 sts]

Next row K1, inc, K3, k3tog, K3, inc, K1. [11 sts]

Next row P1, inc, P9, inc, P1. [13 sts]

Next row K1, inc, K4, k3tog, K4, inc, K1. [13 sts]

Next row P1, inc, P11, inc, P1. [15 sts]

Next row K1, inc, K5, k3tog, K5, inc, K1. [15 sts]

Next row P1, inc, P13, inc, P1. [17 sts]

Next row K1, inc, K6, k3tog, K6, inc, K1. [17 sts]

Next row P1, inc, P15, inc, P1. [19 sts]

Cont in stocking st on these 19 sts for 18 rows.

Next row (K2tog) 4 times, k3tog, (k2tog) 4 times. [9 sts]

Next row Purl.

Next row K2tog, K1, k3tog, K1, k2tog. [5 sts]

Next row Purl.

Next row K2tog, k1, k2tog. [3 sts]

Next row Purl.

Cast off.

When five petals are complete, arrange them into a flower with cast off edges making centre of flower and sew into place. Feed crystal and beaded hair twists through middle of flower and twist together to secure. Do not cut, but feed wire ends up the middle of each petal to give stability and shape, saving two bits of wire to attach to the hair comb.

NECKLACE FLOWERS OUTER (MAKE 3)

Cast on 11 sts using 3¼mm needles, cast off 10 sts; rep 9 times.

INNER (MAKE 3)

Cast on 6 sts using 3¼mm needles, cast off 5 sts; rep 7 times.

Gather outer flower, gather inner flower and attach to centre of outer flower. Sew a crystal bead to centre of flower, and sew 3 beads to the end of each petal. When all three flowers are complete, attach to ribbon, using matching cotton.

Like making flowers? Turn to our Quick & Easy Knits section, starting on page 47, and make yourself a whole garden full of frostproof, no-water-needed blooms.

Very important Knittingshops

Advertising **feature**

Your essential summer buying guide to our favourite suppliers of yarn and knitting accessories



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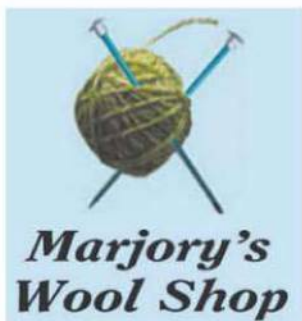
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BY PAT MENCHINI

Happy Days



The colour of this top will get you noticed, while the pretty details will hold everyone's attention.

Bursting with bright colour, this pretty short-sleeved sweater is also packed with details that make it really distinctive, from a teardrop pattern on the body to a dainty picot trim around the hem and sleeve edges.

While the sweater is packed with detail, it's not really a tricky knit. "I actually think the top is a good project for fairly new knitters. The only thing is, there are a lot of stitches just for those first few rows, but you soon get rid of them," says designer Pat Menchini. "Don't knit into the back of stitches on the cast-on row—that makes it easier to knit up the stitches for the picot and also adds almost a row of eyelets between the picot and the edge of the frill," says Pat.

A blend of wool, acrylic and polyamide, Bergère de France Ideal is an affordable and hardwearing yarn, which made it a

great choice for a sweater like this that you'll want to wash and wear regularly. It's an ideal top to pop on over your lighter clothes as day turns to evening. If you've been wearing jeans or a gypsy skirt and a vest top by day, slip this top on as the sun goes down and you're all ready for an evening sitting outside at your favourite pub or café.

 **Start knitting here**

FRONT AND BACK (2 PIECES ALIKE)

Cast on 154 (166: 177: 189: 201: 213) sts using 3mm needles and the two-needle method to obtain a loose edge.

WORK BORDER

Row 1 (RS) Purl.

Rows 2-6 Beginning with a P row again, work 5 rows in stocking stitch.

Row 7 K1, (K2tog, K1) to end. **

[103 (111: 119: 127: 135: 143) sts]

Beginning K row work 3 rows in rev st st.

Change to 3¼mm needles and patt:

Row 1 P3, (yrn, p2tog, P6) to last 4 sts, yrn, p2tog, P2.

Row 2 K3, (P1, K7) to last 4 sts, P1, K3.

Row 3 P3, (K1, P7) to last 4 sts, K1, P3.

Rows 4-8 Rep rows 2 and 3 twice, then row 2 again.

Row 9 P7, (yrn, p2tog, P6) to last 8 sts, yrn, p2tog, P6.

Row 10 K7, (P1, K7) to end.

Ideal is a great yarn for a low price.





Pattern Info

You will need...

Bergère de France, Ideal

A pair of 3mm needles

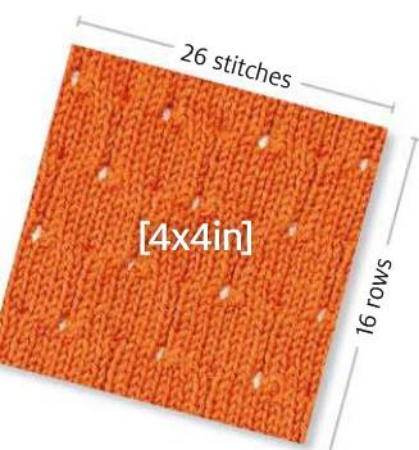
A pair of 3¼mm needles

For where to buy, see page 92

Tension

Yarn used knits as 4ply to this tension:

26 sts and 16 rows to measure 4x4in (10x10cm) over pattern using 3¼mm needles



Sizing colour key

So you can re-use this pattern, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions. Simply follow our colour-coded measurements and you're off.

■ 8 ■ 10 ■ 12 ■ 14 ■ 16 ■ 18

Abbreviations

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| dec | decrease, decreasing |
| K | knit |
| inc | increase, increasing |
| P | purl |
| st(s) | stitch(es) |
| patt | pattern |
| (rev) st st | (reverse) stocking stitch |
| rep | repeat |
| ym | yarn round needle |
| tog | together |
| R(W)S | right (wrong) side facing |

SIZING GUIDE

| SIZE | | 8 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 16 | 18 |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| TO FIT BUST | in | 32 | 34 | 36 | 38 | 40 | 42 |
| | cm | 81 | 86 | 91 | 97 | 102 | 107 |

FINAL MEASUREMENTS

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| BUST | in | 34 | 36 | 38½ | 40½ | 42½ | 45 |
| | cm | 86 | 91 | 98 | 103 | 108 | 114 |
| BACK LENGTH | in | 20½ | 21 | 21½ | 21½ | 22 | 22½ |
| | cm | 52 | 53 | 54 | 55 | 56 | 57 |
| SLEEVE LENGTH | in | 2½ | 2½ | 2½ | 2½ | 2½ | 2½ |
| | cm | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |

YARN

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| BERGERE DE FRANCE Ideal 50g/125m | | | | | | | |
| Vitamine (241.091) | 6 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 8 | |

Row 11 P7, (K1, P7) to end.

Rows 12-16 Rep rows 10 and 11 twice, then row 10 again.

These 16 rows form patt.

Continue in patt until work measures 14½in (36cm), ending after a WS row.

SHAPE ARMHOLES

Keeping patt correct, cast off 6 (7: 8: 9: 10: 11) sts at beginning of next 2 rows.

Dec 1 st at each end of next 3 rows, then on every foll alternate row until 81 (85: 91: 95: 101: 105) sts remain.

Continue straight until work measures 17 (17½: 17½: 18: 18: 18½)in, 43 (44: 45: 46: 46: 47)cm from beginning, measured through centre of work, ending after a WS row.

SHAPE NECK

Next row Work across 19 (20: 22: 23: 25: 26) sts, turn.

Continue on this group. Dec 1 st at neck edge on next 5 rows, then on the 3 foll alternate rows. Now dec 1 st at neck edge on every foll 4th row until 8 (9: 11: 12: 14: 15) sts remain.

Continue straight until work measures 6¼ (6½: 7: 7½: 7½: 8½)in, 15 (17: 18: 19: 19: 21)cm from beginning of armhole shaping, ending at armhole edge.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Cast off 4 (4: 5: 6: 7: 7) sts at beginning of next row. Work 1 row.

Cast off remaining 4 (5: 6: 6: 7: 8) sts.

With RS facing, slip centre 43 (45: 47: 49: 51: 53) sts on a spare needle. Rejoin yarn to remaining sts and work to end.

Complete to match first half.

SLEEVES (MAKE 2)

Commencing with 112 (118: 124: 136: 142: 148) sts work as front and back to **.

[75 (79: 83: 91: 95: 99) sts]

Beginning K row, work 3 rows in rev st st.

Change to 3¼mm needles and work 14 rows in patt to match front and back but noting that row 1 and row 9 placing patt will be as follows:

Row 1 P1 (3: 5: 1: 3: 5), (ym, p2tog, P6) to last 2 (4: 6: 2: 4: 6) sts, yrn, p2tog, P to end.

Row 9 P5 (7: 9: 5: 7: 9), (ym, p2tog, P6) to last 6 (8: 10: 6: 8: 10) sts, yrn, p2tog, P to end.

SHAPE TOP

Keeping patt correct, cast off 6 (7: 8: 9: 10: 11) sts at beginning of next 2 rows.

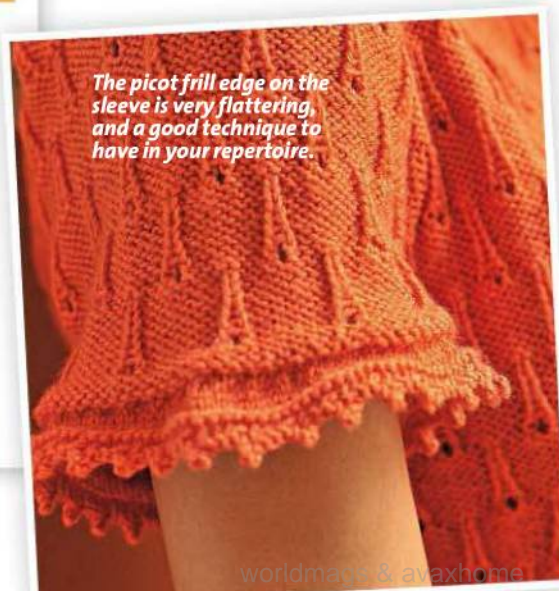
Work 4 rows straight.

Dec 1 st at each end of every RS row until 37 (37: 39: 43: 45: 45) sts remain, then on every row until 27 (27: 29: 33: 35: 35) sts remain.

Cast off remaining sts loosely.

NECKBAND

With RS facing, using 3mm needles, K up 22 (22: 22: 24: 26: 26) sts down left front neck, K across centre sts dec 5 (5: 5: 6: 6: 6) sts evenly across,





HOW TO...

PICK UP STITCHES ON A CAST-OFF EDGE

You'll use this technique when you knit the neck band.



1

With the right side facing you, hold your piece of knitting in your left hand. Insert the point of the needle through the first loop of the cast off stitch, wrap the yarn around the needle and pull the yarn through, just like a knit stitch.



2

Pick up the number of stitches you need (usually one stitch for each cast on stitch). Now turn the knitting and continue with the pattern.

You add the picot border at the very end. You could work it in a contrasting colour for added interest.

The back and front of the sweater are identical, so make the most neatly knitted piece the front.

finally K up 22 (22: 22: 24: 26: 26) sts evenly up right front neck. [82 (84: 86: 91: 97: 99) sts]
Knit 2 rows.

Cast off firmly knitwise.

Work back neck edging the same.

PICOT BORDERS

With RS of front facing, using 3mm needles, K up one st from every loop at cast-on edge.

Now cast off firmly to form picot thus: * Cast off 2 sts, slip st on right needle back onto left needle, cast on 2 sts, cast off 2 sts, k2tog, now slip second st on right needle over first st; rep from * until no sts remaining.

Rep picot border along back and sleeve cast-on edges.

TO MAKE UP

Press following instructions on ball band. Join shoulders and neckband. Join side and sleeve seams. Sew in sleeves. Press seams.

If you like short-sleeved tops, look out for another one from Pat Menchini in next issue. Issue 70, August, will be in the shops from Thursday 15 July 2010.



Reader offer!

Save 10% on Bergere de France Ideal

Turn to page 71 for details for how to save even more on the yarn with InToKnit.

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BY RUTH MADDOCK

Surf Stripes

Teens love beachwear with real style and our bikini set with skirt has it in spades...

Great for
intermediate
knitters



Pattern Info

You will need...

Patons, Linen Touch DK

A pair of 3¼mm needles
Two short 3¼mm circular needles
A pair of 4mm needles
A button
A metre of elastic

For where to buy, see page 92

Tension

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension:

23 sts and 33 rows to measure 4x4in (10x10cm) over stocking stitch using 3¼mm needles



Sizing colour key

So you can re-use this pattern, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions. Simply follow our colour-coded measurements and you're off.

Bikini shorts and skirt

6 8 10 12 14 16

Bikini top

A cup B cup C cup

SIZING GUIDE

| SIZE | | 6 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 16 |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| TO FIT BUST | in | 30 | 32 | 34 | 36 | 38 | 40 |
| | cm | 75 | 80 | 86 | 91 | 96 | 100 |

FINAL MEASUREMENTS

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|
| TO FIT HIP | in | 30 | 32 | 34 | 36 | 38 | 40 |
| | cm | 75 | 80 | 86 | 91 | 96 | 100 |
| SKIRT LENGTH | in | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16½ | 18 | 19 |
| | cm | 33 | 36 | 39 | 42 | 45 | 48 |

YARN

PATONS Linen Touch 50g/100m

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|
| Natural (002) | 8 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 10 | 10 |
| Aqua (0065) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Primrose (0022) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Mandarin (0026) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Our bikini set is an absolute must-knit for teenagers who want to look good on holiday this summer. The striped bikini and wraparound skirt make an ideal alternative for relaxing on the beach or simply sitting by the pool, although being made with linen we don't recommend it for swimming.



Start knitting here

SKIRT

Note: work all edge sts as knit sts, so on purl rows begin and end with a knit st.

Cast on 66 (72: 78: 84: 90: 96) sts using 4½mm needles and Natural and work 2 rows knit, then cont in st st, starting with a knit row, for 26 (16: 26: 16: 24: 12) rows.

***Next row** Change to Aqua and knit.

Next row With Aqua, knit.

Change to Natural and work 4 rows st st, starting with a K row.

Next row Change to Primrose and knit.

Next row With Primrose, knit.

Change to Natural and work 4 rows st st, starting with a K row.

Next row Change to Mandarin and knit.

Next row With Mandarin, knit.

Change to Natural and work 20 rows st st, starting with a K row.*

These 34 rows from * to * form the pattern. Rep pattern 6 (6: 7: 7: 8: 8) times, then work 1st 14 rows of pattern once more.

Change to Natural and work 22 (12: 22: 12: 20: 8) rows st st starting with a K row.

Next row K to last 8 sts, cast off 4 sts, K4.

Next row Work in purl and cast on 3 sts over cast off sts.

Now work next 3 rows knit.

Cast off knitwise.

Work meas 33½ (35½: 37½: 39½: 41½: 43)in, 85 (90: 96: 101: 106: 110)cm long.

Sew in all loose ends and sew button to correspond with button hole.

BIKINI TOP

Cast on 59 (67: 75) sts using 3¼mm needles and Aqua.

Row 1 K29 (33: 37) sts, inc twice in next st, K29 (33: 37) sts. [61 (69: 77) sts]

Row 2 Purl.

Row 3 K30 (34: 38) sts, m1, K1, m1, K30 (34: 38) sts, [63 (71: 79) sts]

Row 4 Purl.

Row 5 Change to Natural, K31 (35: 39) sts, m1, K1, m1, K31 (35: 39) sts. [65 (73: 81) sts]

Row 6 K to form fold row.

Row 7 With Natural, K31 (35: 39) sts, sk2po, K31 (35: 39) sts. [63 (71: 79) sts]

Row 8 With Natural, purl.

Row 9 With Natural, K30 (34: 38) sts, sk2po, K30 (34: 38) sts. [61 (69: 77) sts]

Row 10 With Natural, purl.

Row 11 Change to Aqua, k2tog, K27 (31: 35) sts, sk2po, K27 (31: 35) sts, k2tog. [57 (65: 73) sts]

Row 12 With Aqua, K to form ridge.

Rep rows 7-12 twice more, each time reducing the number of sts in the manner shown, AND working the 2 rows for contrast first in Primrose, then Mandarin. [41 (49: 59) sts]

DIVIDE FOR SHAPING

Change to Natural and work 0 (4: 8) rows st st, starting with a K row.

Next row K2tog, K across 1st 18 (22: 27) sts, cast off next st, K to last 2 sts, k2tog.

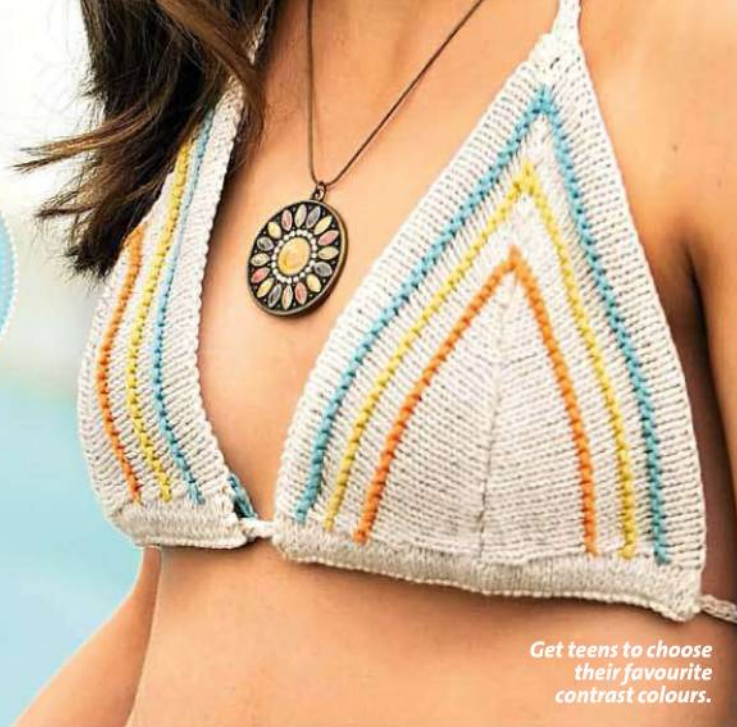
Next row P17 (21: 26) sts, p2tog, turn and work on this group of sts only as follows:

Dec 1 st at centre edge of next 8 (6: 4) rows. [10 (16: 23) sts] (End with a P row at centre).

A plastic button is best for the skirt, as damp could make metal ones rust or wooden ones swell.

**knit tip**

To stop the yarn from stretching out of shape, sew ribbon along the edges of the bikini and skirt.



Get teens to choose their favourite contrast colours.

CUP A ONLY

Cast off 2 sts at beg of next and foll 4 alt rows.

CUP B ONLY

Cast off 4 sts at beg of next and foll 3 alt rows.

CUP C ONLY

Cast off 8 sts at beg of next and foll alt row, cast off rem 7 sts.

ALL SIZES

Rejoin yarn to rem sts and work 2nd side to match 1st side reversing shaping.
Sew centre seam using small backstitch.

LOWER EDGE BAND

Using 3¼mm needles and Natural and working from the RS, pick up and K30 (40: 50) sts evenly along lower edge.

Work 4 rows in st st starting with a P row, work next row as a K row to form the fold row.

Change to Aqua and work 4 rows st st starting with a K row.

Cast off.

Work 2nd side of Bikini top to match.

CORD

Cast on 4 sts using 3¼mm needles and Natural and work in st st until work meas 47 (51: 55)in, 120 (130: 140)cm, or to fit.

Cast off and thread through both bikini pieces.

HALTER NECK STRAPS

Cast on 4 sts using 3¼mm needles and Natural and work in st st until work meas 15 (16½: 18)in, 38 (42: 46)cm or to fit.

Cast off and attach to point at top of bikini. Work 2nd piece to match.

BIKINI SHORTS

Cast on 128 (136: 152: 160: 176: 184) sts using Mandarin and 3¼mm circular needle. Join into a

round without twisting and, working in rounds from the RS, knit 4 rows.

Change to Natural and work as follows:

Next row Knit.

Next row Purl to form ridge.

Knit 4 rows.

Change to Aqua.

Next row Knit.

Next row Purl to form ridge.

Change to Natural.

Next row K16 (17: 19: 20: 22: 23) sts, m1b, (K32 (34: 38: 40: 44: 46) sts, m1b) 3 times, K16 (17: 19: 20: 22: 23) sts.

Knit 3 rows.

Change to Primrose.

Next row Knit.

Next row Purl to form ridge.

Change to Natural.

Next row With Natural, K17 (18: 20: 21: 23: 24) sts, m1b, K32 (34: 38: 40: 44: 46) sts, m1b, K34 (36: 40: 42: 46: 48) sts, m1b, K32 (34: 38: 40: 44: 46) sts, m1b, K17 (18: 20: 21: 23: 24) sts.

Knit 3 rows

Change to Mandarin.

Next row Knit.

Next row Purl to form ridge.

Change to Natural.

Next row K18 (19: 21: 22: 24: 26) sts, m1b, K32 (34: 38: 40: 44: 46) sts, m1b, K36 (38: 42: 44: 48: 50) sts, m1b, K32 (34: 38: 40: 44: 46) sts, m1b, K18 (19: 21: 22: 24: 26) sts.

Knit 5 rows.

Next row With Natural, K19 (20: 22: 24: 25: 27) sts, m1b, K32 (34: 38: 40: 44: 46) sts, m1b, K38 (40: 44: 46: 50: 52) sts, m1b, K32 (34: 38: 40: 44: 46) sts, m1b, K19 (20: 22: 24: 25: 27) sts.

There are 144 (152: 168: 176: 192: 200) sts on the needle.

Cont as follows:

SHAPE BACK

Next row K35 (36: 37: 38: 39: 40) sts, yarn to front,

HOW TO...**SK2PO**

Some patterns call for you to decrease using this method.

**1**

Insert the point of the right-hand needle into the next stitch as if you were to knit it, but instead of winding the yarn around the needle, just slip the stitch off and on to the right-hand needle.

**2**

Knit the next 2 stitches together.

**3**

Now insert the left-hand needle into the slipped stitch on the right-hand needle and lift it over the k2tog stitch.

**4**

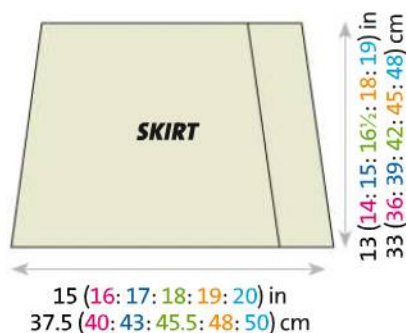
Continue knitting until the end of the row, and your slipped stitch should look like this.



Pattern Info

Abbreviations

| | |
|--------------|--|
| alt | alternate |
| beg | beginning |
| cont | continue |
| dec | decrease |
| fol | following |
| inc | increase |
| K | knit |
| m1b | lift loop before next st and place on left needle. Knit into the back of this st so that a stitch is made without forming a hole |
| P | purl |
| patt | pattern |
| rem | remaining |
| rep | repeat |
| sk2po | sl 1, k2tog, pass sl st over the K st |
| st(s) | stitch(es) |
| st st | stocking stitch |
| tog | together |



Reader offer!

Save 10% off Patons Linen Touch DK

Turn to page 71 for full details of this great offer, and save on the price of this yarn!

sl next st onto right needle, yarn to back, sl the st back onto left needle, turn, P35 (36: 37: 38: 39: 40) sts, to beg of round, P35 (36: 37: 38: 39: 40) sts before beg of round, yarn to back, sl next st onto right needle, yarn to front, sl the st back onto left needle, turn, then K35 (36: 37: 38: 39: 40) sts back to beg of round.

Knit 2 rows.

Next row K30 (31: 32: 33: 34: 35) sts, yarn to front, sl next st onto right needle, yarn to back, sl the st back onto left needle, turn, P30 (31: 32: 33: 34: 35) sts, to beg of round, P30 (31: 32: 33: 34: 35) sts before beg of round, yarn to back, sl next st onto right needle, yarn to front, sl the st back onto left needle, turn, then K30 (31: 32: 33: 34: 35) sts back to beg of round.

Knit 2 rows.

Next row K25 (26: 27: 28: 29: 30) sts, yarn to front, sl next st onto right needle, yarn to back, sl the st back onto left needle, turn, P25 (26: 27: 28: 29: 30) sts, to beg of round, P25 (26: 27: 28: 29: 30) sts before beg of round, yarn to back, sl next st onto right needle, yarn to front, sl the st back onto left needle, turn, then K25 (26: 27: 28: 29: 30) sts back to beg of round.

Knit 2 rows.

Next row K20 (21: 22: 23: 24: 25) sts, yarn to front, sl next st onto right needle, yarn to back, sl the st back onto left needle, turn, P20 (21: 22: 23: 24: 25) sts, to beg of round, P20 (21: 22: 23: 24: 25) sts before beg of round, yarn to back, sl next st onto right needle, yarn to front, sl the st back onto left needle, turn, then K20 (21: 22: 23: 24: 25) sts back to beg of round.

Knit 2 rows.

Next row K15 (16: 17: 18: 19: 20) sts, yarn to front, sl next st onto right needle, yarn to back, sl the st back onto left needle, turn, P15 (16: 17: 18: 19: 20) sts, to beg of round, p15 (16: 17: 18: 19: 20) sts before beg of round, yarn to back, sl next st onto right needle, yarn to front, sl the st back onto left needle, turn, then K15 (16: 17: 18: 19: 20) sts back to beg of round.

Knit 2 rows.

Next row K10 (11: 12: 13: 14: 15) sts, yarn to front, sl next st onto right needle, yarn to back, sl the st back onto left needle, turn, P10 (11: 12: 13: 14: 15) sts, to beg of round, P10 (11: 12: 13: 14: 15) sts before beg of round, yarn to back, sl next st onto right needle, yarn to front, sl the st back onto left needle, turn, then K10 (11: 12: 13: 14: 15) sts back to beg of round.

Knit 2 rows.

Next row K5 (6: 7: 8: 9: 10) sts, yarn to front, sl next st onto right needle, yarn to back, sl the st back onto left needle, turn, P5 (6: 7: 8: 9: 10) sts, to beg of round, P5 (6: 7: 8: 9: 10) sts before beg of round, yarn to back, sl next st onto right needle, yarn to front, sl the st back onto left needle, turn,

then K5 (6: 7: 8: 9: 10) sts back to beg of round.

Next row K1, m1b, K70 (74: 82: 86: 94: 98) sts, m1b, K2, m1b, K70 (74: 82: 86: 94: 98) sts, m1b, K1. Knit 2 rows.

Next row K1, m1b, K72 (76: 84: 88: 96: 100) sts, m1b, K2, m1b, K72 (76: 84: 88: 96: 100) sts, m1b, K1.

Knit 2 rows.

Next row K1, m1b, K74 (78: 86: 90: 98: 102) sts, m1b, K2, m1b, K74 (78: 86: 90: 98: 102) sts, m1b, K1. Knit 2 rows.

Next row K1, m1b, K76 (80: 88: 92: 100: 104) sts, m1b, k2, m1b, K76 (80: 88: 92: 100: 104) sts, m1b, K1.

Knit 2 rows.

Next row K1, m1b, K78 (82: 90: 94: 102: 106) sts, m1b, K2, m1b, K78 (82: 90: 94: 102: 106) sts, m1b, K1.

Knit 2 rows.

Next row K1, m1b, K80 (84: 92: 96: 104: 108) sts, m1b, K2, m1b, K80 (84: 92: 96: 104: 108) sts, m1b, K1. [168 (176: 192: 200: 216: 224) sts]

DIVIDE FOR LEGS

Next row K78 (82: 88: 92: 98: 102) sts, with one of a pair of 3¼mm needles knit across next 12 (12: 16: 16: 20: 20) sts, turn and work in st st on these 12 (12: 16: 16: 20: 20) sts for 20 (20: 22: 22: 24: 24) rows.

Cast off and break yarn.

With 2nd circular 3¼mm needle rejoin yarn to work with RS facing, pick up and K23 (23: 25: 25: 27: 27) sts along side edge of gusset and then K next 78 (82: 88: 92: 98: 102) sts of round. Join the work into a round and cont in rounds on these 101 (105: 113: 117: 125: 129) sts for 6 rounds.

Next row P to form fold row.

Next row Knit.

Change to Mandarin and work 6 rows st st.

Cast off loosely.

Return to first needle and pick up and K23 (23: 25: 25: 27: 27) sts along side edge of gusset, join the work into a round and cont in rounds on these 101 (105: 113: 117: 125: 129) sts for 6 rounds.

Next row P to form fold row.

Next row Knit.

Change to Mandarin and work 6 rows st st.

Cast off loosely.

Fold leg hems to inside and hem down loosely. Fold waistband to inside, and hem down, leaving a small gap. Insert 21½ (23½: 26: 28: 30: 31½)in, 55 (60: 66: 71: 76: 80)cm of elastic (or to fit) and sew ends together. Sew remaining part of hem. Sew in all loose ends. ●

Looking for more seaside-friendly knits? Look out for the mini beach bag in our Quick & Easy Knits section next month. Our August issue, 70, will be available from Thursday 15 July 2010.



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The Knitter

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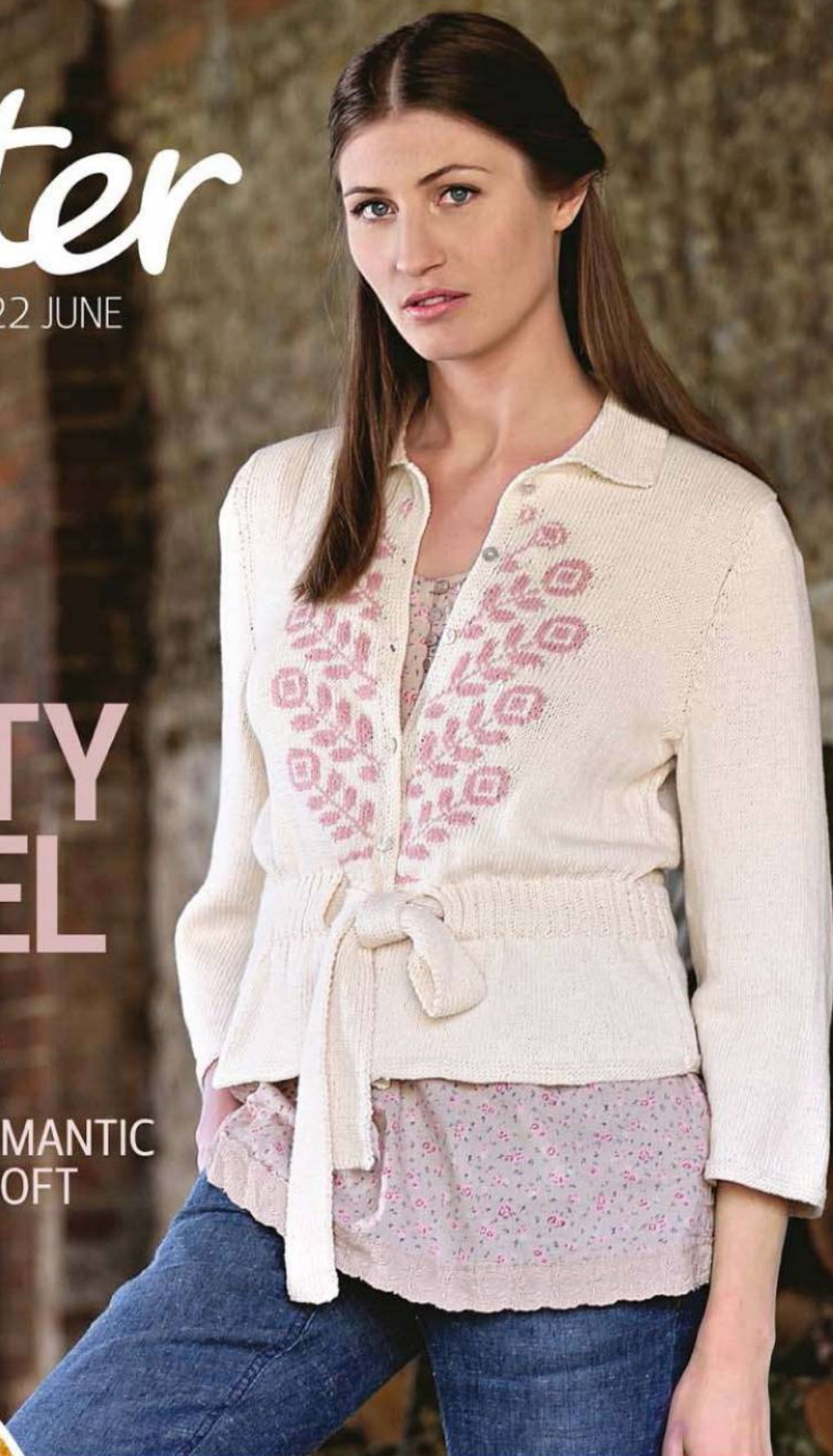
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Reader offers

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Page 20



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Page 27



Page 65

Surf Stripes

10% off Patons Linen Touch

Knit this fab bikini for less with online retailer Purplelinda Crafts. Visit www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk and order as usual, and quote SIMPLYKNITTING on checkout.

Page 38



Page 60

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10% off Bergere de France Ideal

IntoKnit is offering *Simply Knitting* readers 10% off the yarn for this project. Just visit www.intoknit.co.uk or call 0845 8383 762 and quote order code SK0569.



The closing date for these reader offers is **14 July 2010***, so order your yarn now!

*Any exceptions to this will be included on individual offers.



Rachael Matthews

Cast Off catch-up

Rachael's discovered that sending knitting instructions via Twitter can lead to interesting knits worldwide.

A friend once told me that 'being cool' is simply having lots of things going on. As we knitters know, we can't have enough things going on – that must be why people think we are cool, and join us in having fun with yarn and needles.

For the last few years, our mojo has bound communities together, thanks to blogs, networking sites like Ravelry and our favourite knitting magazines. We now have the biggest knitting circle in the history of mankind – a worldwide one.

Net to needles

Artist Ingrid Murnane inspired her global public art group, 'Platea', to get creative with online information network Twitter. Twitter enables users to send and read short messages known as 'tweets'. Tweets are notes of up to 140 characters, displayed on the author's profile page and delivered to the author's subscribers, who are known as 'followers'. You can read tweets on a mobile phone or computer, so you don't have to put down your knitting to look at them. Ingrid realised that an instruction for a knitting pattern could fit into 140 characters, and if tweets were sent within a group, the consequences could result in interesting knitting.

Participants were invited to join as makers, instructors or both. One Monday morning, Inny asked all her friends to cast on 60 stitches in a main colour and work five rows in K2, P2 rib. 'Knitter1' then shared a lace pattern, which fitted over 60 stitches. 'Knitter2' attempted to break the pattern by asking everyone to knit one row with their eyes closed, trusting their inner



Ingrid Murnane (right), the driving force behind the project, with her friend Kate.



knitter. Inny then asked everyone to work one row in green to match her hula hoop. 'Knitter3'

suggested changing the direction of the stitches from knit to purl and purl to knit every time the song changed on your favourite album. 'Knitter4', interested in how many tweets were made about celebrities, suggested a stitch was slipped when a famous name was mentioned. Knitter5 found a morse code website and suggested using a purl for a dash and a knit for a dot to write your name.

Instructions were repeated in this way for five days, with colour changes to represent the weather and a plan that if Tony Blair apologised for the Iraq war people could put their knitting down... but that never happened so they carried on.

Every piece unique

Twenty-three performers produced 13 pieces in different parts of the world. Inny concluded, "I was fascinated to watch how the model interpreted the



This scarf, and the hat to the left, were both made using the Tweeted instructions.

data presented to them and translated it to fit within their working model, particularly when both literal and metaphorical instructions were provided. The makers produced distinct pieces from basically the same instructions. I still have a childlike awe for knitting, viewing it as alchemy!"

Inny instigated a hip happening from which a unique fashion emerged. To get the look for yourself, check out Inny's website at <http://plateastweets.blogspot.com/>



When the Poetry Society decided to knit a poem, Teresa got out her needles.



Poetry Pleases

Teresa Connolly loves both poetry and knitting – what could be better than a project combining the two?

Teresa Connolly discovered the Poetry Society's plan to knit a poem when she did an internet search for 'poetry'. The society wanted to create a poem from dozens of individual squares, each bearing a letter worked in intarsia, as part of their centenary celebrations.

Teresa registered her interest with Rebecka Mustajarvi of the Poetry Society, who was running the poem knitting project. "In July I received instructions, a template with my allocated letter, R, and a participation survey form. I bought double knitting yarn, choosing pink and yellow, and knitted 80 rows in stocking stitch following the letter chart," Teresa says.

Rebecka set up a fan page on Facebook and asked knitters to send photos of themselves knitting and of their finished squares to her. "Soon help was needed co-ordinating the project," says Teresa. "I volunteered, and introduced myself to 50 knitters, checking on progress."

World of words

"Knitters sent in letters and squares from all over the world. More than 32 people were based in the US. The other overseas knitters were from Austria,

Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand, South Africa and Switzerland," says Teresa.

All the volunteer knitters had great fun making their letters and enjoyed being able to talk to one another online. "Good luck, in anticipation of seeing the final product and appreciating the harmony of poetry in words and

"The full poem, which turned out to be 'In My Craft or Sullen Art' by Dylan Thomas, was unveiled in London."

wool!" said one, Lorna.

Another knitter, Laura, said, "I sent a square from across the pond – and a totally blank square at that. But I love that my piece of knitting is across the ocean, commingling with squares from all over and from all types of knitters and poetry lovers.

I can also say my friends were fascinated that I was knitting a square for a poem, in another country, that I would never see."

"No one was told what the poem was," Teresa says. "It was kept secret, gradually being revealed through September. We had to wait until 7 October 2009, when the full poem – which

turned out to be 'In My Craft or Sullen Art', by Dylan Thomas – was unveiled on the piazza outside the British Library in London. The press queued to take its photograph for National Poetry Day on 8 October."

Appropriately, one of the knitters Teresa met through the project was Jo Furber the Curator of the Dylan Thomas permanent exhibition Centre in Swansea.

"This was a really innovative way of interpreting one of his most famous poems," she says.

Teresa ended up with more than memories. "I was one of four runners up in the prize draw and won a knitting book *Knitty Gritty*. The winner Serena from Birmingham received a copy of Carol Ann Duffy's new anthology *To the Moon*, signed by the Poet Laureate herself. She also received a ball of Spindrift, a word contained in the poem."

If you would like to see the poem, the next event it will be exhibited at is UK Knit Camp, to be held at Stirling University from August 9-14.

POEM FACTS

- * The charts were designed by *Simply Knitting's* regular columnist Rachael Matthews and Louise Harries, textile artists who run the modern haberdashery shop Prick Your Finger in East London.
- * The final piece measured 13.9m. It had 424 letters and 776 blank squares, making a total of 1,200 squares.
- * Knitters stitched their name and address and favourite poem onto the back of their square.
- * Volunteers dropped into the office in the last few weeks to help sew the completed poem together.



Teresa's letter...



...joined hundreds of other letters and spaces.



DO YOU HAVE A KNITTING STORY TO TELL? We'd love to hear from you! Drop us a line at: Simply Knitting, Future, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW Or you can email us at: simplyknitting@futurenet.com

Simply the best

Merino Yarns

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&
Tested



Kirstie McLeod
Technical Editor

Prized for its super-soft texture, Merino is also brilliant for summer knits. It provides warmth without overheating you and can wick moisture away from your skin.



Wendy

merino bliss

Ball weight 50g

Ball length 116m

Yarn content 100%

Merino wool

Knits as DK

RRP £3

Rec needle size 4mm

A great new yarn from Wendy, 'merino bliss' manages to be both super-soft to the touch yet firm enough to hold its shape when worn. This robust quality means that the yarn gives good, crisp stitch definition when knitted up and garments will feel warm enough for summer evenings and cooler days.

Such a traditional finish means this DK weight yarn is suitable for all sorts of projects and almost year-round wear, and you'll get good results with cables and other raised stitch patterns. There's a mouthwatering range of 20 solid yarn shades to choose

from, ranging from the vibrant and rich 'Persian Red' to the subtle, light 'Birch'. Knit a classic design in this yarn and you'll be wearing the garment for years, if not decades!

Although 'merino bliss' is made from 100% Merino wool, it's quite practical as it's machine-washable on a 30 degree cool wash. This makes it an appealing choice if you're looking for a really soft, all-natural yarn for baby garments. Not only that, but with a 50g ball costing just £3, it represents amazing value for a high-quality fibre too, enabling knitters of all abilities to experience the softness and luxury of Merino wool in simple, everyday projects.

The yarn is supported by a fantastic selection of pattern books from Wendy, with designs including a longline cardigan, buttoned tunic and cabled bodice. Though machine washable, it needs to be dried flat.



Simply more!

* Jitterbug from Colinette is a brightly dyed sock yarn available in over 100 rich colourways. Visit www.colinette.com for the full range.

* Manos Silk Blend is a beautiful mix of silk and extrafine Merino from Manos del Uruguay. Choose from solid and variegated colours; see www.artesanoyarns.co.uk

* For a touch of luxury, try Fyberspates' Scrumptious wool/silk blend, available in DK, chunky and aran. For more information, visit www.fyberspates.co.uk or call 07540 656660.

Artist's Palette

Big Softy

Ball weight 100g

Ball length 167m

Yarn content

60% baby alpaca,
30% Merino wool,
10% bamboo

Knits as aran

RRP £11

Rec needle size 4½mm

Hand-dyed with a beautifully subtle variation in colour, Big Softy is a blend of Merino wool, bamboo and baby alpaca.

Big Softy lives up to its name as it has an amazingly soft and smooth texture; it gives a real impression of delicacy, which you don't expect from an aran-weight



yarn. It'd be great for a substantial yet slinky knit. With five attractive semi-solid shades to choose from at the time of going to press, Big Softy is a great choice for lovers of unique colourways – just make sure you buy all the yarn for a project at the same time.

Take care of your yarn by hand washing it and drying flat.



Patons**Merino Wool DK****Ball weight** 50g**Ball length** 130m**Yarn content**100% Merino
(superwash)**Knits as** DK**RRP** £3.25**Rec needle size** 4mm

New from Patons, Merino Wool DK is a hardwearing, springy yarn, which creates a densely finished fabric. Its structured texture allows for great stitch definition, tempered by the softness of the 100% Merino wool content, and it holds its shape well.

The 15 solid colours in the range have been created with this season's trends in mind, focusing

on the key non-primary shades of teal, pinks and lime. There are also two excellent pattern books to support it; Contemporary Jackets and Contemporary Classic.

As a real bonus, the yarn is machine washable at 40 degrees, making this a fantastic choice for everyday knitwear.

**Lang****Merino Seta****Ball weight** 50g**Ball length** 150m**Yarn content**70% Merino wool,
30% silk**Knits as** DK**RRP** £6.95**Rec needle size** 4mm

A blend of extra-fine Merino wool and silk, Merino Seta is a joy to knit with. A light and soft yarn, it feels very smooth and the finished fabric has a good drape.

With no less than 30 colours to choose from, you could use this versatile yarn in all sorts of projects, and there's good yardage on each 50g ball. The drape of the fabric means this would be ideal

for light designs, such as camisoles or wraps. The silk content also gives it a subtle sheen, making it a good choice for elegant garments worn on special occasions; think boleros or longline tunic tops, or a pretty cardigan for a little girl. Machine wash and dry flat.

**Shepherd's Moon****Merino and Silk****Handspun****Ball weight** 50g**Yarn content**70% Merino wool,
30% silk**Knits as** DK**RRP** £14**Rec needle size** 4mm

The white silk content in this Merino-blend yarn gives it a lovely soft sheen, together with a pretty light fleck throughout.

Perfect for fashion knits which can show off its good drape, Merino and Silk Handspun would work well with figure-hugging designs such as sleeveless tunics. Available in striking jewel-like

colours, it's also ideal for accessories such as berets or scarves. As the yarn is handspun the vibrant colour choices do vary, so keep an eye on the website at www.shepherdsmoon.co.uk for current shades. Hand wash only and dry flat.

**Sublime****Baby Cashmere****Merino Silk DK****Ball weight** 50g**Ball length** 116m**Yarn content**75% extra fine
Merino wool, 20%
silk, 5% cashmere**Knits as** DK**RRP** £4.79**Rec needle size** 4mm

Sublime's Baby Cashmere Merino Silk DK has been created by spinning together six plies of yarn. It knits up to form a springy fabric with good stitch definition.

This yarn has been especially formulated to be ultra-soft against baby skin, although adults will appreciate the feel of it too.

The colour palette includes pastels, but they're a little more muted and modern than most baby yarns. The deeper colours will appeal to toddlers and parents alike.

You can machine wash this – something mums will appreciate – but dry the knits flat.



Knitting Books

Knitting Tips & Tricks/Crochet Tips & Tricks*

Lily Chin

Publisher: Potter Craft, £14.99 each

If you're after some top-quality knitting and crochet advice, Lily Chin has probably got more stitches under her belt than most people, so she really knows her stuff. She's designed for magazines and companies for over 25 years and, besides being named a 'Master Knitter' by Vogue Knitting International, has twice won the title of 'World's Fastest Crocheter'!

In the US Lily runs regular 'Tips & Tricks' classes, which are always a sell-out, and now

she's sharing her knitting and crochet know-how with a wider audience in this pair of handy little books. Both titles are packed with clever little shortcuts and ideas which will help you to solve many typical knit and crochet bugbears and annoyances.

In *Knitting Tips & Tricks*, for example, you can discover an easy way to calculate how to pick up stitches evenly, the best techniques for sewing up and a simple method to stop your stitches twisting when using circular needles. These are just a handful of examples – with many more inside these books, both titles are invaluable for knitters and crocheters of all abilities, and make great gifts for beginners.



Save £4.49 on each book To order your copy of either book for just £10.50 plus p&p call GMC on 01273 488005 or visit www.thegmcgroup.com and quote offer code R2212 for the discount on *Knitting Tips & Tricks* or R2213 for the discount on *Crochet Tips & Tricks*. Offers end 30 September 2010. P&P is £2.95 for the first item, £1.95 for additional items.

The Yarn Garden*

J Marsha Michler

Publisher: Krause Publications, £15.99

Plant-based yarns are becoming much more popular and are now available in a wide variety of finishes. *The Yarn Garden* shows how these yarns can be used to make a range of attractive clothes – patterns include jumpers for men and women, a skirt, belts, a man's tie, a neck warmer, a hat and bags.

Before you begin knitting, the book fills you in on all you need to know with a section on materials and tools, which covers all the types of plant-based yarn you can get. There's also a 'Tips, tricks and important information' feature to help you before you begin knitting with plant-fibre yarns, plus information on washing, ironing and blocking your newly created garment.

Save £5 To order your copy for just £10.99 with free p&p (UK only), please call RUCraft on 0844 880 5851 or visit www.rucraft.co.uk and quote code R11208.



Twenty To Make: Eco-Friendly Knits

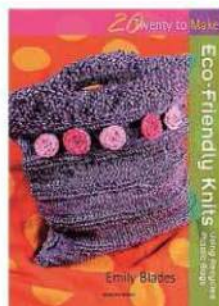
Emily Blades

Publisher: Search Press, £4.99

If you've never considered knitting with plastic bags before, Emily Blade's nifty little book will surely inspire you to give it a go.

Emily gives instructions on how to create your own ball of 'plarn' (plastic yarn!) and she's come up with some simple ways to use it to great effect. The Mobile Phone Socks and MP3 Player Sleeves are perfect projects for plarn as the plastic offers more protection than regular yarns. Other quick ideas include purses, travel wallets and coasters, but we really liked the larger bag, as shown on the cover, which is ideal to attempt once you've got the knitting with plarn habit. And of course, with every project created from recycled plastic bags, these designs are about as eco-friendly as you can get!

Free p&p To order your copy post-free (UK only), call Search Press on 01892 510850 and quote *Simply Knitting* magazine.



The Enchanted Sole*

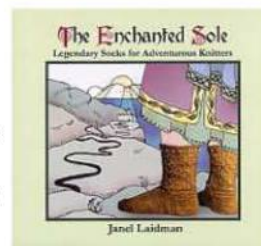
Janel Laidman

Publisher: Rustling Leaf Press, \$25.95 plus p&p

Fans of fantasy and folklore will adore the beautiful range of designs found in this book.

Janel Laidman has created an enchanting collection of 'magical' sock projects. There are dainty elvish socks, inspired by Tolkien, plus an amazing 'Labyrinth' pattern; a pair of socks featuring a full maze motif on each of them! Lovingly put together, the attention to detail in each design is truly staggering. The projects use a wide variety of techniques, including colourwork, lace stitches and beading, so beginners will appreciate the comprehensive guide to knitting stitches at the back.

Save 10% and free p&p Order this book from www.rustlingleafpress.com for 10% off with free p&p, throughout July, August and Sept. At the online checkout enter 'simplyknitting' for a 10% discount and update your shopping cart, then enter 'simplyshipping' for free shipping and update your cart again.



Knitting Patterns

Rowan Siena & Cotton Glace

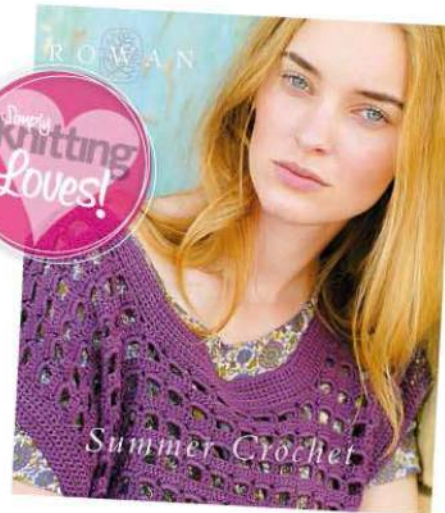
12 crochet designs for women

Pattern book name:

Summer Crochet

Marie Wallin has pulled out the stops with this elegant collection of crochet designs. Thoughts of endless granny squares or clashing colourways can be banished from your thoughts forever, as these gorgeous patterns show just how sophisticated crochet can be.

As these garments are intended for summer, intricate stitch patterns abound, resulting in light tops, wraps and jackets that can be worn alone on hot days or used as an extra layer for breezy ones or chilly evenings. Cotton Glace and Siena have smooth textures, which lend themselves well to crochet. Each design fits in beautifully with this summer's fashion for pretty, lacy designs, but if you want to stand out from the crowd there are some wonderful



finishing touches to several of the patterns. 'Crete', for example, includes a gorgeous floral neckline and 'Kefalonia' is constructed from scallop stitches in colourful stripes. All patterns are sized to fit 32-46in (81-117cm) busts, and some go up to 50in (127cm).

Summery creations for cotton crochet fans.

King Cole Smooth DK Waistcoat and Slipover

Pattern book code: 3211

Cable has been given a fresh new twist with this pair of stylish designs from King Cole. With the option of a long-line waistcoat or slipover, these classic garments will enjoy long-lasting appeal and can form the



basis of a summer or autumn capsule wardrobe. Knitted up in Smooth DK (which feels like a luxury yarn, but costs less and is easy to care for), we reckon these longer garments would look great on anyone with a fuller figure; the pattern is sized to fit 32-42in (81-107cm) busts. With the bulk of the pattern knitted in stocking stitch, it's mainly the neckline which may prove a challenge for knitters with less experience of cable work.

Cable details in a pair of modern classics.

Wendy Happy 4ply Picot Edged Sweater

Pattern book code: 5473

Wendy Happy 4ply is a versatile yarn, and being bamboo-rich and lightweight it's great for summer knits. Its soft texture and self-striping effect is perfect for this simple sweater.

The soft bamboo mix of the yarn results in a good drape, giving the sweater a smart, fitted style. Beginners could give this a go as the main body is knitted in stocking stitch. Be sure to check out the full colour range of Wendy Happy before you get started, as although the sample shown (in Libra, (2509)) looks very effective there are plenty of other shades, each giving a slightly different effect, to choose from. The pattern fits bust sizes 28-46in (71-117cm).

Surprisingly simple self-striping sweater.



Sirdar Calico DK

10 designs for women and girls

Pattern book code: 373A



We can't rely on a warm British summer this year, but the pretty colours of Calico DK guarantee that these designs will inject a little sunshine into your life.

There ten designs to

choose from, six for girls (from four years) and ladies, sized to fit 24-46in busts, and four for ladies, sized to fit 32-54in busts. With the focus on simple stocking stitch, coupled with some lace borders, sleeves and trims, there's something to suit every skill level. Beginners can try their hand at the short-sleeved scoop-neck and three-quarter-sleeve v-neck sweaters, while experienced knitters will love getting their teeth into the lace edged cardi and the drawstring lacy waistcoat. Calico DK is made from a machine washable cotton/acrylic blend which also makes these pretty knits a practical choice for holiday wear.

Bumper choice of super-summery knits.

MillaMia Naturally Soft Merino

Patterns for babies and children

Pattern book name: Bright Young Things

If you like Swedish style in your home (think modern, with clean lines and bright colours) then you'll love this fabulous new pattern book.



Whether you're knitting an all-in-one or a dress for a little girl, the designs have a fresh, bold look with plenty of stripes, asymmetrical collars and openings and vivid colourways. Of course, you can ring the changes and choose your own yarn shades, and the patterns helpfully feature alternative colourways. Each design (there are 20 in total) uses MillaMia Naturally Soft Merino yarn and pattern sizes vary, but range from newborn to five years.

Modern collection of Swedish styles for kids.

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Issue 63 February*

* Audrey Hepburn-style jacket * Elegant silver tunic * Textured cream jumper * Alan Dart's Pierrot & Pierrette * Slouchy socks * Fair Isle hot water bottle cover * 12 Quick & Easy Knits including loveheart socks and cosy blanket **PLUS!** Tape measure†

Issue 64 March*

* Warm thigh-length jacket * Alan Dart's Sox the Cat * Girl's cable & bobble hoodie * Teen boy's tweed jumper * Rowan alpaca tunic * Trio of bags * Hat & wristwarmer set * 12 Quick & Easy Knits including floral tea cosy **PLUS!** Bag handles†

Issue 65 April*

* Leaf-patterned pink gilet * Child's dinosaur jumper * Longline blue & white tunic * Alan Dart's Easter ducklings * Vintage-style bag * Man's chunky jacket * 12 Quick & Easy Knits, including lace scarf, boy's stripy socks & booties. **PLUS!** 3-in-1 tool†

Issue 66 May*

* Stunning floral intarsia jacket * Alan Dart's chimps' tea party (part 1) * Smock-style top * Möbius scarf * Child's tank top * Lady's Fair Isle tank top & skirt * Jane Asher's tea cosy * Quick & Easy Knits including soft slippers **PLUS!** Two toy booklets†

Issue 67 June*

* Elegant cable-waisted cardigan * Alan Dart's chimps' tea party (part 2) * Batwing sweater * Man's striped cotton jumper * Child's jacket * Crochet breakfast set * Easy desk set * Quick & Easy Knits including Father's Day gifts **PLUS!** Row counter†

Issue 68 Summer*

* Cool short-sleeved cardigan * Alan Dart's Bravo Bunnies * Lacy bolero * Dainty crocheted waistcoat * Teen hoodie * Man's ribbed jumper * Quick & Easy Knits including baby bonnet & mittens, cable hat and purses. **PLUS!** Pattern markers†

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Knitting Websites

Oddballs

www.oddballs.org.uk

Oddballs provides several handy services, most importantly a listing of yarn for sale from knitters, with details including the dyelot. If you've ever found yourself one ball short on a project, you'll appreciate how useful this is! On the other hand, if you have spare balls left over from a project, you can sell them here. You can also buy and sell accessories and patterns and put pattern/yarn requests on the noticeboard. You're able to search for items using keywords and brand names, so it's easy to while away many a happy hour 'window shopping' here.



There is a small subscription fee if you'd like to sell items, but otherwise it's free to browse and buy. **Useful, clearly laid out and fun to browse.**



Crafts Council

www.craftscouncil.org.uk

The Crafts Council's website is a fantastic resource for anyone who lives and breathes craft and enjoys visiting exhibitions about knitting and related disciplines.

There's lots of information about what's on in the UK, including opportunities for anyone wanting a career in craft, or who'd simply like to find out more about current UK crafters and organisations. The site also runs a quarterly online exhibition, featuring pieces from the Crafts Council's own collection of artefacts. This ingenious idea allows anyone who can't visit craft exhibitions in person, for whatever reason, to enjoy viewing the collection at the click of a mouse.

Get your contemporary crafts fix here.



Sunday Knits

www.sundayknits.com

Carol Sunday takes making her own yarns so seriously that she travelled to Italy to have them milled to her specifications. Although there are only four yarns in the range, each in 3ply and 5ply (the 3ply knits similarly to a British DK weight, the 5ply to an aran), there are actually 42 yarn shades in total to choose from. All the yarns have a fine merino base and, thanks to the large range of shades they come in, are ideal for colourwork.

The Sunday Knits website shows off the beautiful skeins you can order (overseas mailing and customs costs will apply), as well as an extensive gallery of beautiful designs that are available as patterns and kits.

Stunning yarns and feminine patterns.



Ray-Stitch

www.raystitch.co.uk

A whole host of knitting and sewing delights await you on Ray-Stitch's website.

This online haberdashery's simple design makes it easy to go straight to what you want or simply to browse, plus the large, clear photos of the products on offer give you a good idea of what you'll be buying. There's a lovely mix of knitting essentials, with a full rainbow range of yarns from companies like Lang, Artesano, Twilleys, Wendy and Regia, as well as modern pattern books. Ray-Stitch also sells buttons, fabrics, ribbons and trims.

If you like vintage style, then you'll fall in love with many of the items here, with plenty of great options for finishing your work off with a pretty flourish. Be sure to check out the pretty guipure trim, which will transform a plain knitted little girl's top or dress into something very special indeed.

Knitting essentials and vintage-style treats.



Cat Bordhi

Catbordhi.com

Cat Bordhi is a writer who has delved into the 'magical' side of knitting with her books featuring Möbius designs. She has garnered a loyal following of readers, so much so that she is currently working on her third *Treasury of Magical Knitting*.

Cat is based in the Pacific North West of America, so her website is a great way for British fans to find out more about her. You can buy her books online, check out previous interviews and podcasts featuring her and read her latest news. There are lists of workshops and events (although these tend to be US-based) and several free knitting patterns to download.

A must-visit for any fans of Möbius designs.

Ask the Experts

Yarn in knots? Knitting in a tangle? Each month our experts solve your problems.

Meet our Experts



Debora Bradley
Editor

Deb's already thinking of the winter yarns!



Kirstie McLeod
Technical Editor

Looking for cool yarns to keep out the heat.



Miriam McDonald
Production Editor

Has been enjoying knitting at cricket matches.

IS IT REALLY CHANGE?

Q I keep seeing interchangeable needle kits advertised as being a revolutionary way of knitting, but are they just circular needles or can you also use them in the same way as straight needles?

Kim Brookes via email

A You can use both circular needles and interchangeable needles in the same way as straights, Kim, turning your knitting at the end of each row and knitting pieces flat, not in the round. If you don't like letting your knitting slip onto the cable, you're probably best off sticking with straights, although there are

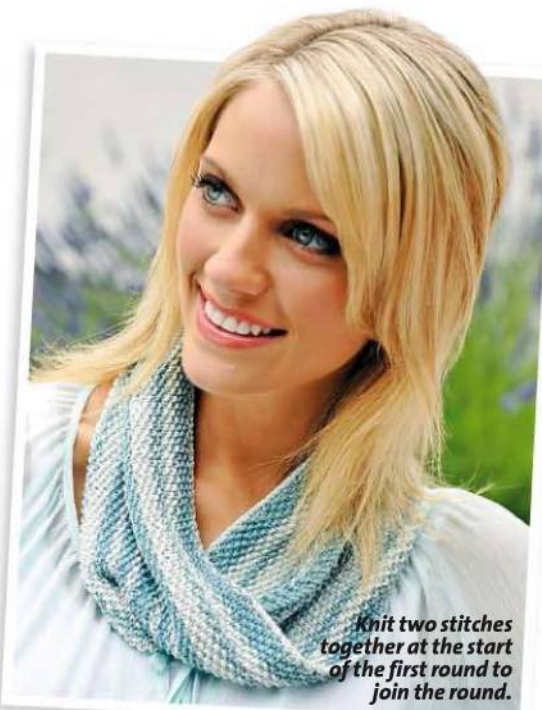
times when you need the length of a cable needle.

Some of the advantages of interchangeables are that you can have two different-sized points (to give rows of different depths like the 'Oddpins' patterns of the 1980s), and being able to mix and match saves space—for example, two cables and three sets of points will take up less room than six cable needles would. Some ranges also enable you to connect cables for even greater lengths, so if you wanted a needle with a two-metre cable, you could make one.

BIGGER BOOTEES

Q I found a pattern for a pair of Mary Jane baby shoes for ages 0-6 months. My sister-in-law would love me to knit a pair for 6-12 months. I was wondering how to go about knitting a pair in a bigger size?

I am wondering how easy it is to adjust a pattern—could I just add five more stitches or so to increase the length? I'm not sure if I would need to add more stitches to the strap or rows for heel or for the heel.



Knit two stitches together at the start of the first round to join the round.

Would it be too difficult to amend?

Angela via email

A Resizing patterns is a very tricky business, but with small items like socks and baby booties there are tricks you can try. To start with, go up a needle size or two, and then follow the pattern as usual: this will make the stitches slightly larger and so the booties will come out larger. If you need to go up several needle sizes to get the size you want, the yarn may be too thin and result in quite holey knitting; in this case you may also need to look at using a thicker yarn in order to get the knitted fabric looking right.



For larger booties, try going up a needle size.

TWO TOG OR NOT TWO TOG

Q I am trying to knit the Möbius Scarf from the May issue and am

stuck on the first round! It says 'insert the right tip into the first stitch on the left hand tip and knit it together with the second stitch'. Does this mean K2 or K2tog, or something different? I thought it was strange for it to be K2 because the pattern then continues K1, P1 for the

Many knitters swear by their interchangeables.



GADGET WE LOVE!

Foldaway drying rack

This rack, reference number 22040, is great for drying lighter knits flat—if you handwash on holiday, it's a lifesaver.

Foldaway Drying Rack, £8.99, from Lakeland. Visit www.lakeland.co.uk or call 015394 88100.



TOP READER TIP!

If you're making a pair of socks or gloves and are worried about running out of yarn, weigh out half the ball or hank so the same amounts are used for each one. It's possible to get really accurate electronic kitchen scales to do this.

Emma Evans, London



HOW TO... KITCHENER STITCH

Cut out this guide and pop it in your knitting bag.



1

Cut the yarn, leaving a long tail. Using a sewing needle, thread it twice through the first st at the front and twice through the first st at the back.



2

Go back to the front. Pass through the first st twice, then slip the st from the needle. Sew into the next front st twice, pulling the yarn through both stitches. Don't pull the yarn too tight.



3

Take the sewing needle to the back needle and 'purl' it, then slip that stitch from the needle. 'Knit' into the next stitch on the back needle. Repeat steps 2-3 across your knitting until all the stitches have been grafted.



4

Check that you're not pulling the tension too tight as you work across the rows. The grafting will blend in with the knitting once you have finished.

HARD GRAFT

Q I've just finished my first pair of socks. The pattern says that I need to graft the toes using Kitchener stitch. Is there an easy guide I can use to help me?

Megan Brown Chester

A These two stitches do need to be knitted together, but only on the first round. After that, continue with the moss stitch pattern as set in the same round.

GUITAR BLUES

Q I've just started the guitar strap for my son, but I can't see where in the pattern I need to change colour to get the pattern. Please can you reprint the pattern including the colour change.

Sandra Kay via email

A Stitch pattern:
Row 1 With Yarn A
*Sl 1, K1; rep from * to end of row.
Row 2 With Yarn A,
Purl.
Row 3 With Yarn B,
*K1, sl 1; rep from * to end of row.
Row 4 With Yarn B,
Purl.
Rep these 4 rows until strap measures 56in.



Slipping stitches is an effective way to knit colour patterns.

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Fiddlesticks Devon

We stock the full range of Bergère de France patterns and yarns alongside sumptuous yarns from Manos del Uruguay, Noro, Sublime, Five Moons and Twilleys, with needles from Brittany and Knitpro. You can even see inside patterns and magazines online for full details of yarn and needles. Coming soon – ceramic buttons and accessories locally made in Devon. Check out our sale section for huge savings! We are always happy to help with knitting queries, or visit the shop in Honiton – a delight for any knitter.

T: 01404 47676
www.fiddlesticksdevon.co.uk



Injabulo

Our shop is full of gorgeous and fairly traded goods – all sourced from projects in South Africa. Incomparable buttons is just one of the ranges available, and these beautiful handpainted buttons will really make any project special. Their Ceramic Pendants are a must for jewellery makers, and our exclusive gift wrapping and Christmas Decorations make a delightful gift. As well as the shop (and don't forget – there's free shipping on the UK mainland!) you'll find lots of interesting information on the site.

www.injabulo.com



The Yarn Barn Ltd

We're constantly adding products to the fantastic range on our website. We stock Artesano, Manos del Uruguay, Sublime, Rowan, Addi and Brittany needles, with Bergère de France appearing shortly. Our downloadable 'Pattern Library' is available to members, offering patterns created by our team. We offer advice and help, and you can come to our workshops – the full list is on the site. Sign up for our newsletter today – we'll keep you up-to-date, and you won't want to miss out on our special offers!

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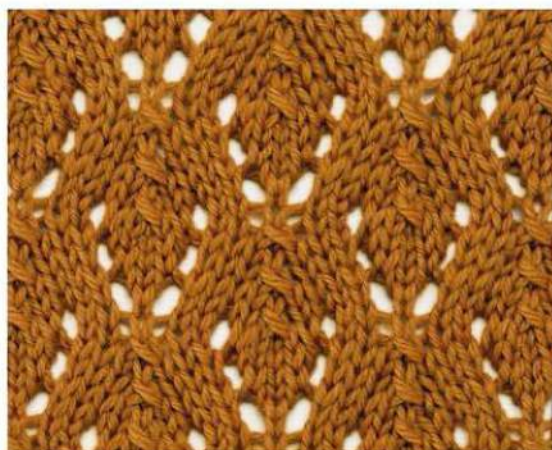
All-over lace patterns are ideal for pretty summer scarves. Confident knitters could work one into a plain lightweight top pattern, too!

Abbreviations

- cl 5** cluster 5 sts; pass next 5 sts onto the right-hand needle dropping the extra loops, pass these 5 sts back onto the left-hand needle (K1, P1, K1, P1, K1) into all 5 sts together wrapping the yarn twice around the needle for each stitch
- K** knit
- k2tog** knit the next two stitches together
- k4tog** knit the next four stitches together
- P** purl
- rep(s)** repeat(s)
- R(W)S** right (wrong) side
- st(s)** stitch(es)
- tbl** through the back of the loop
- yo** yarn over
- yfm** yarn forward round needles



The yarn used is **artesano Superwash Merino**, shade 7254, Sand Yellow.



Leaf and wave

Cast on a multiple of 12 sts plus 1. (Try 49 sts.)

Row 1 (RS) K2tog, K4, yo, K1, yo, K4, *sl 1, k2tog, psso, K4, yo, K1, yo, K4; rep from * to last 2 sts, sl 1, K1, psso.

Row 2 and every alt row Purl.

Row 3 K2tog, K3, (yo, K3) twice, *sl 1, k2tog, psso, K3, (yo, K3) twice; rep from * to last 2 sts, sl 1, K1, psso.

Row 5 K2tog, K2, yo, K5, yo, K2, *sl 1, k2tog, psso, K2, yo, K5, yo, K2; rep from * to last 2 sts, sl 1, K1, psso.

Row 7 K1, *yo, K4, sl 1, k2tog, psso, K4, yo, K1; rep from * to end.

Row 9 K2, yo, K3, sl 1, k2tog, psso, K3, * (yo, K3) twice, sl 1, k2tog, psso, K3; rep from * to last 2 sts, yo, K2.

Row 11 K3, yo, K2, sl 1, k2tog, psso, K2, *yo, K5, yo, K2, sl 1, k2tog, psso, K2; rep from * to last 3 sts, yo, K3.

Row 12 Purl.

These 12 rows form the pattern.

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Eyelet weave

Cast on a multiple of 6 sts plus 1. (Try 49 sts.)

Row 1 (WS) K2, *P3, K3, rep from * to last 5 sts, P3, K2.

Row 2 P2, *K3, P3; rep from * to last 5 sts, K3, P2.

Row 3 K2, *P3, K3, rep from * to last 5 sts, P3, K2.

Row 4 K2, *yo, sl 1, k2tog, psso, yo, K3; rep from * to last 5 sts, yo, sl 1, k2tog, psso, yo, K2.

Row 5 P2, *K3, P3; rep from * to last 5 sts, K3, P2.

Row 6 K2, *P3, K3; rep from * to last 5 sts, P3, K2.

Row 7 P2, *K3, P3; rep from * to last 5 sts, K3, P2.

Row 8 K2tog, *yo, K3, yo, sl 1, k2tog, psso; rep from * to last 5 sts, yo, K3, yo, sl 1, K1, psso.

These 8 rows form the pattern.



Sea shell

Cast on a multiple of 6 sts plus 1. (Try 49 sts.)

Row 1 (RS) Knit.

Row 2 P1, *P5 wrapping yarn twice around the needle for each st, P1; rep from * to end.

Row 3 K1, *cl 5, K1; rep from * to end.

Row 4 P1 *K5 dropping extra loops, P1; rep from * to end of row.

Row 5 Knit.

Row 6 P4, P5 wrapping yarn twice around the needle for each st, *P1, P5 wrapping yarn twice around the needle for each st; rep from * to end.

Row 7 K4, cl 5, *K1, cl 5; rep from * to last 4 sts, P4.

Row 8 P4, K5 dropping extra loops, *P1, K5 dropping extra loops, rep from * to last 4 sts, P4.

These 8 rows form the pattern.



Essential Guide



Discover the basics of knitting here, and turn over to find out more about crochet.

Our aim here at *Simply Knitting* is to get you knitting and crocheting. Whether you're new to needles and yarn, or want to rekindle the passion you once had for the hobby, we've got all the basics right here. Over the next four pages we'll take you from cast on to knit and purl, and from chain to treble. If you need more help, see overleaf for how to contact us for more extensive guides to knitting and crochet.

All you really need to start off with is a pair of knitting needles or a crochet hook and a ball of yarn. Once you've mastered the basics, you'll have the confidence to begin your first knitted or crocheted item (a scarf is a good choice). Keep your kit in a small purse in your knitting bag, so that it's always on hand when you need to knit!

Cast on: thumb method Use this all-purpose cast-on for an elastic edge – it works well for ribbing.



1 Place a slipknot with a long tail of 1in (2.5cm) per stitch on one needle. Hold the needle and yarn in your right hand.



2 Holding the tail end in your left hand, wrap it around your left thumb by bringing the needle across to the left, over and around your thumb.



3 Insert the point of the needle through the loop from front to back, then wind the ball end around the needle, going from left to right.



4 Pull the loop through the thumb loop, then move the thumb over the tip of the needle. Remove your thumb and pull the yarn to tighten.

Cast on: cable method Choose this cast-on for a firm edge, and when adding stitches within your work.



1 Make a slipknot and put the right-hand needle behind the knot. Wind the yarn around the tip of the right-hand needle anticlockwise.



2 Pull the right-hand needle back under the left-hand needle, keeping the yarn loop on the tip of the needle as you bring it towards you.



3 Pull the loop out with the right-hand needle, then slip it over the end of the tip of the left-hand needle, as shown above.



4 Insert your needle between the stitches on the left-hand needle and repeat steps 1-4 until you have a cast-on row of stitches.

Cast off Finish off your knitting with this straightforward cast-off technique.



1 Start by knitting the first two stitches of the row as normal, but don't go any further along as you usually would.



2 Insert the left-hand needle through the first stitch, as shown. Lift this stitch over the other stitch on the right-hand needle and over the needle point.



3 Knit another stitch so you have two on the right needle. Lift the first stitch over the second, then repeat steps 1-3.



4 When you get to the last stitch, cut the yarn about 6in (15cm) away, feed it through the loop and pull through firmly.

Knit Follow our simple steps to make the most important stitch you'll learn.



1 Hold the needle with the stitches on it in your left hand. Keeping the yarn in your right hand and at the back of your work, insert the point of the right-hand needle into the front loop of the first stitch, as shown.



2 Wind the yarn anti-clockwise around the point of the right-hand needle using your index finger. It's important to keep the yarn in your right hand relatively taut to maintain an even tension as you go.



3 Bring the right-hand needle back through the loop, making sure that you catch the yarn you wound around the needle. This creates the stitch. Don't pull the free yarn too tightly. Let out some slack and it will be easier.



4 Push the point of the right needle further through the stitch you created, then gently pull the right needle to your left, taking the original loop with it. You've now created one knit stitch. Repeat these steps.

Purl To make purl stitches, just reverse the action of plain knit stitches.



1 Holding the needle with all the stitches on in your left hand, and ensuring that your ball end yarn is at the front of your work, insert the right-hand needle through the front loop of your first stitch as shown.



2 Wind the yarn around the tip of the right-hand needle from right to left, in an anti-clockwise motion, constantly keeping a slight tension on the yarn.



3 Now slip the right-hand needle back through the stitch, ensuring that you 'catch' the yarn that you've already wound around the needle. This creates a stitch on your right-hand needle.



4 Pushing the point of the right-hand needle a little further through the stitch you've just created, pull the first stitch off the left-hand needle. That's your first purl stitch! Repeat points 1-4 across the row.

Needle sizes

| UK | METRIC | US |
|-----|--------|-----|
| 14 | 2mm | 0 |
| 13 | 2½mm | 1 |
| — | 2½mm | — |
| 12 | 2¾mm | 2 |
| 11 | 3mm | — |
| 10 | 3¼mm | 3 |
| — | 3½mm | 4 |
| 9 | 3¾mm | 5 |
| 8 | 4mm | 6 |
| 7 | 4½mm | 7 |
| 6 | 5mm | 8 |
| 5 | 5½mm | 9 |
| 4 | 6mm | 10 |
| 3 | 6½mm | 10½ |
| 2 | 7mm | — |
| 1 | 7½mm | — |
| 0 | 8mm | 11 |
| 00 | 9mm | 13 |
| 000 | 10mm | 15 |
| — | 12mm | 17 |
| — | 15mm | 19 |
| — | 20mm | 36 |
| — | 25mm | 50 |

Knitting abbreviations

| | | | | | |
|---------------|---|--------------------|--|--------------|---|
| alt | alternate | MB | make a bobble | ssk | slip 2 stitches one at a time, knit 2 slipped stitches together (1 stitch decreased) |
| approx | approximately | MC | main colour | ssp | slip 2 stitches one at a time, purl 2 slipped stitches together through back of the loops 1 stitch decreased) |
| beg | beginning | P/p | purl | | |
| CB | cable back | patt(s) | pattern(s) | st(s) | stocking stitch |
| CC | contrast colour | patt rep(s) | pattern repeat(s) | st st | through the back of the loop together |
| CF | cable forward | PB | place bead | tog | wrong side |
| CN | cable needle | pfb | purl into front and back of stitch | WS | with yarn behind |
| cont | continue | PM | place marker | wyib | with yarn in front |
| dec | decrease (by working two stitches together) | P2tog | purl 2 stitches together (1 stitch decreased) | wyif | yarn to the back |
| DK | double knitting | P3tog | purl 3 stitches together (2 stitches decreased) | ybk | yarn forward |
| dpn | double-pointed needle | prev | previous | yo | yarn over |
| fol | following | p2sso | pass slipped stitch over | yrn | yarn round needle |
| g st | garter stitch (knit every row) | p2sso | pass 2 slipped stitches over | yon | yarn over needle |
| inc | increase (usually knit into same stitch twice) | pwise | by purling the stitch | * | work instructions immediately following *, then repeat as directed |
| K/k | knit | rem | remain/remaining | | |
| kfb | knit into front and back of stitch | rep(s) | repeat(s) | | |
| kwise | by knitting the stitch | rev st st | reverse stocking stitch | | |
| k2tog | knit the next two stitches together | RH | right hand | | |
| LH/lh | left hand | rnd(s) | round(s) (on a circular needle) | | |
| LT | left twist | RS | right side | | |
| meas | measures | RT | right twist | | |
| M1 | make one (increase 1 stitch) | skpo | slip 1 stitch, knit 1 stitch, pass slipped stitch over (1 stitch decreased) | | |
| M1L | make one twisted to the left (increase 1 stitch) | sk2po | slip 1 stitch, knit 2 stitches together, pass slipped stitch over (2 stitches decreased) | | |
| M1R | make one twisted to the right (increase 1 stitch) | sl | slip | | |
| M1p | make one purlwise (increase 1 stitch) | sl st | slip stitch | | |

TOP TIP!

Always check the list of abbreviations given on each pattern for any special abbreviations.

Chain stitch This is the foundation of all crochet stitches.



1 About 6in (15cm) from the end of the yarn, make a loop with the ball end on top. Insert the hook through this loop and catch the yarn, pulling it through the loop. Slide the slipknot up to the hook.



2 With the hook in your right hand, hold the slipknot between thumb and finger of the left hand. Move the hook under and over the yarn.



3 Pull the hook and yarn back through the slipknot loop to form your first chain (ch) stitch. Now repeat steps **1** and **2** until you've formed a chain.



4 This is what your row of chains will look like. Keep going until you have the number of chains which are stated on your pattern. (Don't count the slipknot.)

Slip stitch This stitch won't add height.



1 Insert the hook from front to back under the top of the second chain from the hook. Wrap the yarn round the hook (this is known as yrh).



2 Pull the yarn through both loops on the hook to make a slip stitch (sl st). To carry on working a row of slip stitches, insert the hook into the next chain down and so on, repeating step **2** each time.



1 Make a short length of foundation chain as stated in your pattern instructions, for example, ch 5. Insert hook into the first chain.



2 Close the ring with a slip stitch (yarn round hook and pull through). You can continue the spiral. If working in the round, add a stitch marker here.

Double crochet This easy stitch is frequently used and forms a smooth, firm surface.



1 Skip 2 chain stitches and insert the hook under the top loop of the 3rd chain.



2 Wind the yarn around the hook and pull it through the chain loop, leaving two loops on your crochet hook.



3 Yarn round hook again, then pull the yarn through both loops. There's your double crochet made and you'll have one loop left on your hook ready to do the next stitch. Continue to the end of the chain, but don't work into the slip knot.



4 For the following (full) rows, turn work and ch1. This is the turning chain (t-ch) and counts as the first dc. Skip the stitch at the base of the t-ch, then work 1dc under the top 2 loops of each stitch in previous row. Work into top of each stitch across the row.

Treble crochet A very popular stitch, it's twice as high as double crochet.



1 Make a foundation chain. Skip 3 chain, yarn round hook, then insert the hook under the loop of the 4th chain, yarn round hook.



2 Pull the yarn through the chain loop only (leaving 3 loops on hook), yarn round hook.



3 Pull the yarn through 2 loops only (2 loops on hook), yarn round hook. Pull the yarn through these 2 loops. Continue working treble into the next and all following chains to the end of the row.



4 To make the next and following rows, turn work and chain 3. This is the turning chain and counts as 1 treble. Work 1 treble into top 2 loops of 2nd stitch in previous row. Work into top of each stitch across the row.

Half treble This easy stitch is frequently used and forms a smooth, firm surface.



1 Make a foundation chain. Skip 2 chain, yarn round hook and insert the hook under the top loop of the 3rd chain, yarn round hook.



2 Pull the yarn through the loop only, leaving 3 loops on your hook, yarn round hook.



3 Pull the yarn through all 3 loops. You've made a half treble. Continue half treble into next and all following chains to the end of the row.



4 For the following rows of half treble, turn work and chain 2. This counts as the first half treble in the new row. Work 1 half treble into next and each st to end, including top of turning chain.

Count chains and stitches Make sure you are working the correct number of stitches.



Chains
Each 'V' counts as one stitch. Never count the slip knot or the loop on the hook. Don't twist the chain.



Double
To count short stitches, such as double crochet, look at the 'V's at the top of the row.



Treble
For taller stitches, such as treble it's easier to count each upright stem as a single stitch.

Work in rows Turn and turn about!



1



2

How to continue your work
Make the first row by working across the foundation chain from right to left. At the end of the chain or row, turn the work so the yarn is behind the hook. Make a turning chain and work the next stitch into the top of the stitches on your first row.

Hook sizes

| UK | METRIC | US |
|-----|--------|-------|
| 14 | 2mm | B/1 |
| 13 | 2.25mm | — |
| 12 | 2.5mm | C/2 |
| 11 | 3mm | — |
| 10 | 3.25mm | D/3 |
| 9 | 3.5mm | E/4 |
| 8 | 4mm | G/6 |
| 7 | 4.5mm | 7 |
| 6 | 5mm | H/8 |
| 5 | 5.5mm | I/9 |
| 4 | 6mm | J/10 |
| 3 | 6.5mm | K/10½ |
| 2 | 7mm | — |
| 0 | 8mm | — |
| 00 | 9mm | — |
| 000 | 10mm | — |

Crochet abbreviations

| | | | |
|----------|---|---------|--------------------------------------|
| across | to the end of the row | lp(s) | loop(s) |
| alt | alternate | nc | not closed |
| approx | approximate(ly) | patt | patterns |
| beg | beginning | p or pc | picot |
| bet | between | rf | raised front |
| bl | insert hook under back loop only. Example | | Example: rfdc – raised front |
| ch(s) | bldc – back loop double crochet | rb | double crochet |
| ch sp(s) | chain or chain stitch(es) | | raised back |
| cl(s) | chain space(s) | | Example: rbdcc – raised back |
| cont | clusters | | double crochet |
| dc | continue | rem | remaining |
| dc2tog | double crochet | rep | repeat |
| dec | work 2 dc together | rnd | round |
| dtr | decrease | sk | skip |
| dtr2tog | double treble crochet | sl st | slip stitch |
| fl | work 2 dtr together | sp(s) | space(s) |
| | insert hook under front loop only. | st(s) | stitch(es) |
| | Example: ffdc – front loop double crochet | t-ch(s) | turning chain(s) |
| fol | following | tog | together |
| gr | group | tr | treble crochet |
| htr | half treble crochet | tr2tog | work 2 tr together |
| htr2tog | work 2htr together | yrh | yarn round hook |
| in next | sts to be worked into same stitch | * | work instructions immediately |
| inc | increase | | following *, then repeat as directed |

Still confused?

If you need more help, visit www.simplyknitting.co.uk to download the PDFs of our full-length Essential Guides. Alternatively, you can write to us and we'll send them out to you. Please state whether you'd like either a knitting or crochet guide or both. Please send an A4 SAE (the stamp needs to be 65p) to: Essential Guide Request, Simply Knitting, Future, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW

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Shop
of the
month



GADES

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what you're going to do with it
all? When Julie Benham's parents
found themselves in such a
situation, it wasn't a problem or
even a chance for many happy
hours spent knitting, it was a
great business opportunity.

"My dad was invalided out of
the Air Force and took over a Post
Office," Julie explains. "Mum
ordered in some knitting
supplies to sell in it, but she
ordered far too much! However,
they all sold brilliantly, so my
parents realised that a knitting
shop was really the way to go."

Forty-five years later Gades is
still going strong. They moved to
new premises with lots of extra
space, and Julie is hoping to start
holding classes, as they now
have a large upstairs area in
which to hold them.

It's the customers that really
make this family business stand

out for Julie. "They're all so nice
— and because I grew up working
in the shop, I've known lots of
them for most of my life," she
laughs. "They appreciate us as
well. We've got a great rapport
with many customers simply
because we've been here for so
long. They know we're always
willing to go the extra mile to get
what they need."

Julie learned to knit from her
mum and nan within the shop
when she was young, and she
still knits a variety of projects, so
she's always ready and able to
help customers with their
knitting queries.

If you're near Southend-on-
Sea, it's the perfect place to pop
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and if you're further afield, never
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- 2 SIRDAR CROFTER
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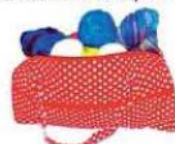
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Contacts

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If you are looking for someone selling a particular yarn, call the manufacturer. So, for example, if you are looking for a Stylecraft yarn, call Stylecraft, or if you are looking for a Rowan yarn, call Rowan. They can tell you your nearest stockist. Where possible we give an address and telephone number, but many small businesses are now internet-only, and so in those cases we only have a web address for those firms. In the case of common high street chains, we also list only the web addresses as you should have a branch locally.

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Club of the month



Denby Dale Dabblers

Who are you?

We are a group of women of varying ages and with a range of backgrounds and histories. Some of us have lived in the area for ages and some are relative newcomers. In our midst we have retired teachers, an ex-IT project manager, a retired baker/confectioner and a landscape gardener.

How did the group get started?

Last year one of our group was involved in a charity horse driving event. She talked to friends about fundraising and we started knitting bits and pieces to sell at a coffee morning. The group took off properly when the same event happened again this year and we started knitting and crocheting again. We meet every Tuesday morning in our local craft shop. The shop owner spread the word amongst her other customers and so the group was born!

What sort of things do the group members knit?

We mainly knit and crochet, and our members have made everything from dishcloths to shrugs and hats to blankets. We are also interested in other crafts and have begun to organise workshops, starting with one of our members giving us a session on rag-rugging.

Do you do any knitting for charity?

Well, we got started by knitting for the charity coffee mornings so we're definitely charity-oriented! We raised around £600

last year and £500 this year. We are currently discussing what we could do in the autumn to raise more money for charity.

What are your meetings usually like?

Our meetings are very informal. We all just bring along whatever we are working on at the time and as the group is full of people with varying abilities, meetings are a great opportunity for anyone to get help if they get stuck. We have a good chat over coffee and biscuits and try hard not to lose track of our patterns while we are talking!

What are your plans for the future?

We plan to run more workshops for different crafts, organise outings to interesting shops and find more ways to raise money for charities at future events.

What advice would you give someone starting a club?

Our group has been successful as we had a core group of three or four people who knew one another and were able to attend every week. As more people have started joining we always make sure that they feel welcome and involved from the very start, and we encourage newcomers to bring along more friends.



There's always time for tea, biscuits and a good natter at a Denby Dale Dabblers meeting.

Club tip

Don't be depressed, get out of bed – knit and natter will mend your head!

CLUB DIRECTORY

There are so many fantastic clubs around that we can't fit them all in the magazine! We've moved the list of clubs to our website, www.simplyknitting.co.uk but if you're not online, just send us a stamped self-addressed envelope and we'll print it out for you.

If you'd like to change your club details, or add your knitting group, please email us at simplyknitting@futurenet.com or write to us at Club Directory, Simply Knitting, Future, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW

BE OUR CLUB OF THE MONTH!

Send us a photo and you could be our club of the month! To make sure you look your best in print, take lots of photos so you can send us your favourite and rest the camera on a box or table to cut out any wobble. Send us the photo straight off the camera, and you're done!

Your name

Contact details

Club contact details (if different)

Date, time and place you meet

Why you'd be a great club of the month

Email us at simplyknitting@futurenet.com or post your completed form to Club of the Month, Simply Knitting, Future, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW



The Denby Dale Dabblers meet at Country Crafts, Wakefield Road, Denby Dale, Huddersfield every Tuesday from 10.30am to 12.30pm. For more information, ring Emily Barraclough on 01484 866989.

WIN! ABAKHAN GOODIES WORTH OVER £50!

If we choose you to be club of the month, you'll win a yarn bundle from big-brand discounter Abakhan, worth £50, to share with all your members! To tell us about your club, email us at: simplyknitting@futurenet.com or write to us at Club of the Month, Simply Knitting, Future, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW



Simply fun

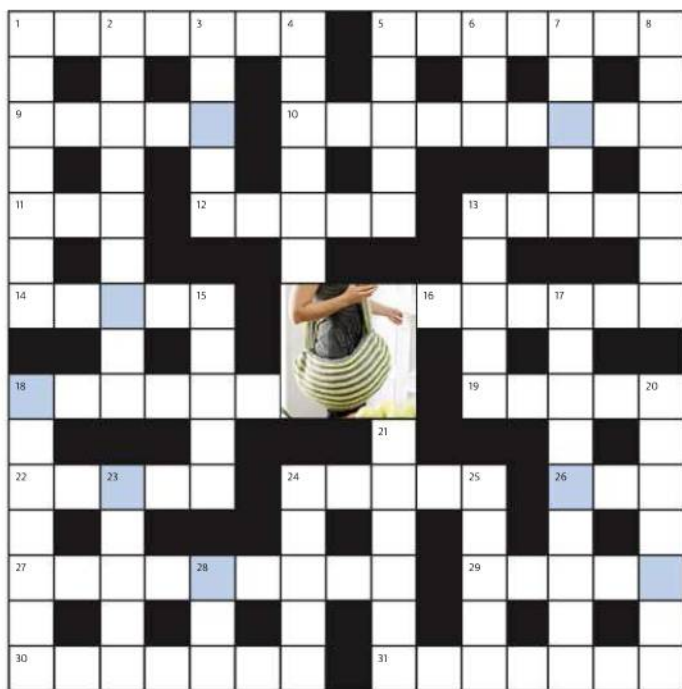
Solve our prize crossword for your chance to win one of **25 copies** of Rowan and Amy Butler's book, *Midwest Modern Knits*.

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Textile designer Amy Butler shows off her debut knitwear collection in *Midwest Modern Knits*. Amy is well-known for her beautiful range of fabrics and stylish sewing patterns, and this collection of 24 patterns, all using Amy's new yarns Belle

Organic DK and Aran, exemplify her fuss-free shapes and bright modern colours. With designs ranging from pretty ruffle-neck sweaters to gorgeous intarsia cushions, you're spoilt for choice, whether you want to update your wardrobe or glam up your home with a few accessories.



Across

- 1 Direction instrument (7)
- 5 --- shaping, instruction given in cardigan patterns (7)
- 9 Royal racecourse (5)
- 10 Benefit (9)
- 11 Muscle spasm (3)
- 12 Monarch's rule (5)
- 13 Raw fish dish (5)
- 14 Ceremonial clothes (5)
- 16 Rogue (slang) (3,3)
- 18 Relating to unborn babies (6)
- 19 Electronic message (1-4)
- 22 Timepiece (5)
- 24 --- Radcliffe, marathon runner (5)
- 26 Eggs, Latin (3)
- 27 Suspect something is wrong (5,1,3)
- 29 Seed ---, tiny organic gemstone (5)
- 30 Grey's ---, US medical drama (7)
- 31 Gift (7)

Down

- 1 Section of a book (7)
- 2 Pattern stitch for reversible knitting designs (4,5)
- 3 Sacred table (5)
- 4 Omar ---, Dr Zhivago actor (6)
- 5 Large black bird (5)
- 6 Transporting vehicle (3)

ISSUE 67 ANSWERS



The prize word was: **Holiday**

- 7 Wanders (5)
- 8 Before night (7)
- 13 Surplus (5)
- 15 Light meal (5)
- 17 Change into steam (9)
- 18 Pinkish purple colour, named after a shrub (7)
- 20 Small publication giving information (7)
- 21 Violent argument (4-2)
- 23 The Phantom Of The ---, Lloyd Webber show (5)
- 24 Celebration (5)
- 25 Cox or Pink Lady, eg (5)
- 28 Tony Blair's youngest son (3)

PRIZE SUDOKU

Stretch your maths skills and solve our sudoku for your chance to win one of **10 copies** of *Babes in the Wool* by Fiona McDonald. This new book contains all the inspiration you need to design and create knitted dolls of your own.

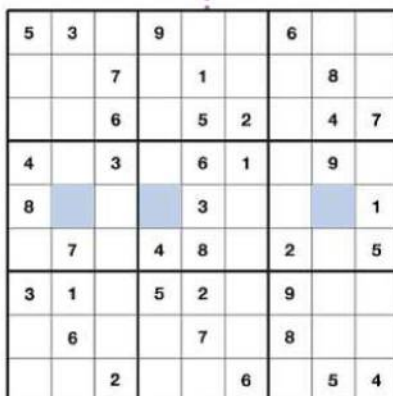
There are nine dolls to make and each doll has **their own** fabulous range of knitted clothes and accessories for you to knit. Knitting toys has never been more fun!



HOW TO ENTER

When you've completed our puzzles rearrange the letters that appear in blue squares in the crossword to make the Prize Puzzle Word and list the numbers in the blue squares from left to right to make our Prize Number. Text **SKXWORD69** then a space followed by the Prize Puzzle Word to enter the crossword or **SKSUDOKU69** then a space followed by the Prize Number, then your name and address to **87474** or enter online at www.simplyknitting.co.uk using just the prize word. Closes **14 July 2010**.

See page 19 for SMS text terms and conditions. You will have to send separate text messages to enter each competition.

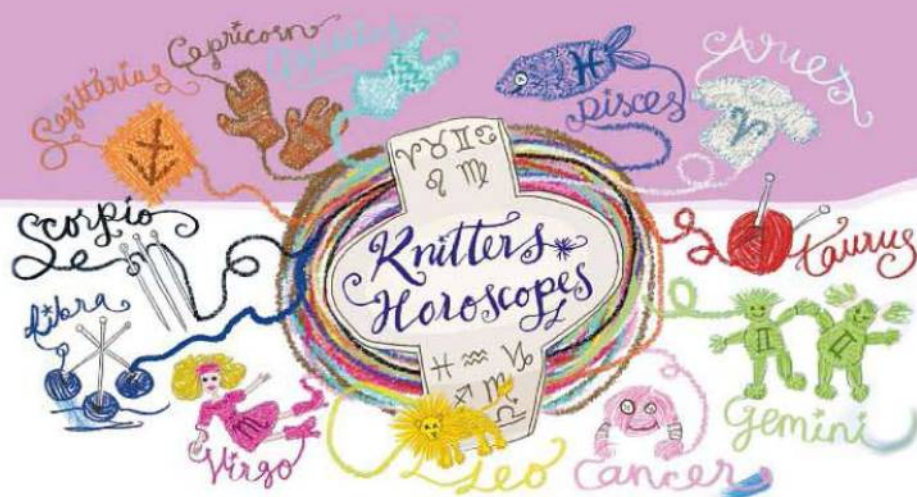


HOW TO SOLVE

The numbers 1-9 should be placed into the grid in such a way that each horizontal row and vertical column contains a different digit. In addition, each of the nine blocks of nine smaller squares should contain a different digit.



ISSUE 67 SOLUTION

**Aries**

(21 Mar-20 Apr)

You've been enjoying taking things easier recently, but if you've been working on a project with a deadline you're going to have to knit doubly hard to catch up and finish in time!

Taurus

(21 Apr-21 May)

It's likely you're going to be extremely busy with work matters over the next few weeks, so make extra-sure you schedule in some much-needed knitting time and relax.

Gemini

(22 May-22 Jun)

Some exciting new possibilities may present themselves to you this summer, so get ready to take advantage and don't be afraid to try new challenges and techniques.

Cancer

(23 Jun-23 Jul)

Take care with money matters. If you can avoid too many impulsive stash-buying spending sprees, you may find yourself in a stronger financial position later in the month.

Leo

(24 Jul-23 Aug)

Whatever grand plans you've had for new knitting projects, you're going to have to think hard about how you're going to achieve them.

Virgo

(24 Aug-23 Sep)

If tricky stitch patterns have been driving you crazy, you need to accept that you'll have to persevere. Be patient; the rewards for mastering them will be more than worth it in the end.

Libra

(24 Sep-23 Oct)

It's time to slow down and give yourself a bit of a break. If you've been working on complex patterns, try to also have a simple design on the go, which you can turn to if you need a rest.

Scorpio

(24 Oct-22 Nov)

Underlying tensions have been giving you cause for concern. Buy some skeins of an exciting new yarn to keep you positive and give you something to look forward to.

Sagittarius

(23 Nov-22 Dec)

Your love of knitting could lead to a new friendship or even romance blossoming! In the meantime, exercise your creative skills and start on an exciting new pattern.

Capricorn

(23 Dec-19 Jan)

Make sure your partner realises how important your knitting is to you – perhaps organise a day out to a yarn shop with other crafting pals?

Aquarius

(20 Jan-19 Feb)

They say to always look before you leap and that saying is especially true for you this month. Whether you're trying a new class or just a new technique, make sure you know what you're letting yourself in for.

Pisces

(2 Feb-20 Mar)

Your creative potential will not go unnoticed. If you've dreams of setting up your own knitting stall or selling your designs, now's the time to plan ahead and then go for it.



Marjorie Orr's stars

To hear Marjorie's predictions for your star sign each week, call

0905 072 3590*

and select your sign.

Call one of Marjorie's hand-picked team of psychics & mediums on

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* 0905 calls cost 75p per minute from a BT landline. Other networks and mobile will vary. 0906 calls cost £1.50 per minute from a BT landline. Other networks and mobile will vary. 18+ only. All calls recorded for your protection and safety. This entertainment service is regulated by PhonePayPlus, and provided by RGA, PO Box 322, WA14 8YL.

In stitches

by Malcolm Bird



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More, more more! See more of Malcolm's great art work on his website www.malcolm-bird.co.uk



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The lamb from 'Contentment' is now in the collection at North Lands Creative Glass, while the two adult sheep are in the Roslin Institute, where Dolly the Sheep was cloned.

PHOTO: SIMON BRUNTELL

Knit one purl fun



PHOTO: CARRIE FERTIG

Artist Carrie Fertig works in glass, and her creations include these airy, fragile, lifesize sheep.

Fleece: soft, light, yielding. Glass: hard, dense, fragile. The two materials don't seem to have anything in common, yet Carrie Fertig's glass sheep convey the soft woolliness of the living animals perfectly.

Carrie's first sheep was the Highland Sheep, which she made during her time in residence at North Lands Creative Glass, in Lybster, Caithness, in 2007. "My intention was to make an installation of many small sheep, but after seeing the fantastic equipment at North Lands, I decided to work life-size and that decision about scale has had a profound impact on my future work," she says.

Contentment jointly won the People's Prize of the British Glass Biennale in 2008. Carrie's latest sheep was commissioned by Perth Museum and Art Gallery. "The reason they commissioned the work was to bring a new contemporary glass work into the museum which would tie all the collections together through the symbolism, heritage and history of the sheep," Carrie explains.

The sheep for Perth Museum took two months to make. Carrie goes through a lengthy process of heating sections of rods of glass and curling them. The sections

have to be annealed, which Carrie explains means they're "put in a hot kiln and slowly brought down to room temperature to take the stress out of the glass and prevent the glass from shattering," before being constructed into a body, and the body has to be annealed again as it takes shape.

If you want to see the result of all this painstaking work, visit Perth Museum and Art Gallery, George Street, Perth. Entry is free.



PHOTO: JOHN MCGREGOR

The Highland Sheep was Carrie's first. She wanted to explore the Highland Clearances, where hundreds of years ago people were evicted from the Scottish countryside to make room for sheep farming, and people's attitudes to sheep nowadays.



Here Carrie is installing the commissioned sheep at Perth Museum and Art Gallery. The ears and the horns are blown from glass tube.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF PERTH MUSEUM & ART GALLERY / PERTH & KINROSS COUNCIL

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
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